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Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 144

MONDAY JUNE 20, 2011

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POLL RESULTS

Have you attended or do you plan to attend the public hearing for the Saipan casino bill?

Yes	13
No	85
Undecided	6

Sunday, November 29, 2009

INSIDE



Travelers Nightmare

A five-hour computer outage that virtually shut down United Airlines is a stark reminder of how dependent airlines have become on technology.

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Overpriced Projects

Philippine President Benigno Aquino III is canceling or reconsidering foreign-funded infrastructure projects worth \$2 billion.

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Night of Gambling

For once, the community expressed undivided support for gambling for a good cause.

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Simple ceremony ushers in Liberation Day festivities. **PAGE 5**

Fitial: I will support Inos as next governor if he transfers to GOP

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said on Friday night he will support Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos' candidacy as governor in 2014 if the latter joins him at the Republican Party, but Inos separately said on Saturday that he is more concerned about saving the economy and restoring work hours

for government employees at this time rather than talk about politics.

Fitial said he can't support Inos if he remains with the Covenant Party because the governor said he is now back with the Republican Party.

"It's up to him," Fitial told reporters during a meeting with his Blue Ribbon Committee led by Oscar Rasa at the Car-

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Atty. Joseph Camacho, standing, addresses a meeting of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's Blue Ribbon Committee led by former speaker Oscar Rasa at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan on Friday night, as Fitial and Rasa look on. The committee seeks to merge the Covenant Party and the Republican Party.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Public auditor breaks silence on OPA investigation of AG, lawsuit

» As Fitial insists Buckingham did not violate any law during campaign season

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Public auditor Michael Pai described the complaint filed by attorney general Edward Buckingham as "the latest of what appears to be a series of attempts by the AG to disrupt OPA's access to legal counsel and to challenge its autonomy."

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FBI says leads slowing down

» Pohaku resumes today search for missing Luhk sisters as their disappearance now enters 4th week
» Cash reward may reach \$50,000 cash

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Hawaii State Civil Defense's tracking expert dog, Pohaku, will resume today his mission to search sisters Faloma and Maleina Luhk, whose mysterious disappearance is now entering its fourth week.

As this developed, the \$33,500 cash
See **FBI** on **Page 4**



LAS VEGAS NIGHT

Community members place their bets at any of the 10 Black Jack tables during the Rotary Club of Saipan's Las Vegas Night fundraiser held at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort last Saturday. The event raised about \$30,000 in ticket sales and some \$6,000 in game earnings.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

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Local

Fund: Merrill Lynch provided 'defective' investment policies

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund said its longtime investment consultant Merrill Lynch provided defective investment policies and advice that resulted to a significant loss in the pension portfolio of retirees; amounting to almost \$150 million in 2009 alone.

The Law Office of Braddock J. Huesman LLC disclosed this in a nine-page cross complaint filed by the agency against its former consultant which was hired by the Fund in 2006.

The Fund said it was in October 2003, at a time when

Merrill Lynch knew or should have known that the Fund was severely under funded, that the consultant recommended an asset allocation to the board of trustees of 65 percent equities, 25 percent fixed income, and 10 percent hedge fund.

In 2007, Merrill Lynch also created and submitted for adoption by the board the investment policy statement—IPS—which is labeled as also defective.

"Merrill Lynch failed to develop and recommend proper investment strategies for the Fund that appropriately responded to the Fund's circumstances in and after 2007," the

Fund's lawyer said,

It added that the consultant also failed to develop prudent and appropriate strategies to preserve the Fund assets, prolong the life of the Fund, and provide for pension income to retirees and refunds to employees.

The Fund also said the former consultant negligently failed to accurately measure the risks of circumstances that could cause the Fund to deplete its assets.

"On information and belief that it is alleged that the Fund initially lost almost \$150 million—in excess of 25 percent of its capital [from Sept. 16, 2008 to March 9, 2009]," said the Fund, adding that

it was not able to recover the said losses even when the markets began to recover.

The Fund labeled also as "unlawful" the fees and revenues collected by Merrill Lynch after finding out that the company was not properly licensed in the Commonwealth. It claimed that the firm has never held CNMI business license and only obtained it in 2005 which violated the procurement regulation. Because of this, the Fund asked that the "Consulting Services Client Agreement" with the company be voided.

Because it received compensation in "soft dollars" up

until at least end of June 2009, it was alleged that this created a conflict of interest. "Soft dollar" compensation is based on trade commissions that exceeded the compensation it would receive under a "hard dollar" arrangement.

Merrill Lynch ended its service with the Fund in October 2010 and was replaced by Wilshire Associates. The former consultant advised the Fund board on longterm investment strategies; allocation of assets; types and extent of long-term

risks the Fund should be exposed to; management of risks; and the selection, monitoring and retention of outside investment managers.

The Fund revealed that it did not advise the board on the purchase, sale, or valuation of specific securities or buy or sell securities.

The Fund cited five charges in its complaint against the investment consultant: breach of trust; breach of fiduciary duty; negligence; malpractice; and unjust enrichment.

New law modernizes Fund investment statute

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed into law on Thursday a bill that would modernize the NMI Retirement Fund investment law, including allowing the pension system more diversity in its stock investments by removing the restrictions to only U.S. stocks to reduce the risk of loss.

Statutory provisions relating to the Retirement Fund's investments have not been updated since the agency was established by law in 1980.

House Bill 17-174, introduced by floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), is now Public Law 17-46.

Camacho, in his bill, said current provisions do not do not reflect modern portfolio theory and recommended asset allocations that experts consider as prudent for many public pension funds.

When asked for comment yesterday, Camacho said he thanked the governor for

quickly signing his bill into law, and the House and Senate for passing it.

"It's an important bill that will assist the Fund in its continuing efforts in protecting its members. With this new law, the Fund now will have a much broader field and more choices to invest in, giving the chance for a much greater return in its investments," Camacho told *Saipan Tribune*.

Currently, the Retirement is only permitted to invest in stocks of corporations that were created or exist under the CNMI or U.S. laws. There is no requirement that these stocks be publicly traded.

Besides removing restriction to only U.S. stocks, the new law also broadens the definition of bonds and "other securities," which currently is only 15 percent of the total value of the Fund's investments. The new law increases the value of "other securities" to a maximum of 25 percent of the value of the pension system's investments.

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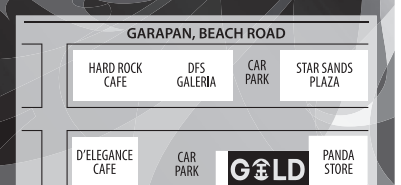
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Steele, White win Beach Road Magazine Car Rally

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Two teams—one amateur and one veteran—finished even in the 5th Beach Road Magazine Car Rally held last Saturday.

The tandem of Triple J vice president Randy Steele and Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White of car No. 12 tied the game with the double act of Pacific Islands Club Activities manager Glenn Policare and Mayuki Kebukawa of Car no.13.

The two teams bested 17 other teams in this year's car rally, which is the longest one to date as it involved a 52-mile circuitous course timed at two hours and 43 minutes following distance and speed limits.

The course, which tested the participants' skills and wit, started off at the base of Mt. Tapochau and meandered around the island through five different checkpoints: Joeten Store in Kagman, Tanapag Beach, Triple J Motors, Super Fresh Market, and the Oleai Beach Bar & Grill.

Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, which was the final checkpoint, also served as the venue for the awarding ceremony yesterday afternoon.

The two winning teams shared the first place prize of \$150, four Magellan Lunch and Waterpark Pass gift certificates from PIC, \$25 gift certificate from Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, and one car wash gift certificate from Cool Car Wash.

Coming in at second is car No. 19 which included Amanda Hayes, who signed up for the event as early as April that she almost forgot Saturday's event. The second placer won a Nokia 6070 with \$10

load from Docomo Pacific, a \$25 gift certificate from Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, one car wash gift certificate from Cool Car Wash, and one Lunch Buffet for two at World Café from Fiesta Resort & Spa.

Car No. 2, which included Glen Deleon Guerrero, won a Nokia 6070 with \$10 load from Docomo Pacific, a \$25 gift certificate from Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, and one car wash certificate from Cool Car Wash.

All members of the two teams that placed first were present to accept their prizes yesterday.

Steele, when asked for comment, said it "feels great" that their team won the competition which they joined for the first time.

"I would like to thank all Triple J customers and staff who joined the car rally. I would also like to thank Car Rally Master Susan Marchitti for organizing such a great team," he added.

For his part, White said that although the course was very tiring and challenging, it was also very enjoyable.

Policare, in an interview, echoed the same sentiments. "This is by far the most difficult to date. It involved intricate directions," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Policare, a Koblerville resident, said he and teammate Kebukawa, who lives in Chinatown got lost in their respective villages in the duration of the course. "There were streets that we didn't know existed," he added.

Car rally master Marchitti

said this year's rally had the most number of participating teams at 19.

"I'm just happy that the participants were still smiling even after a long and tricky course," said Marchitti, who worked on the course and drove it herself for two months.

"We prepared the participating teams and provided them a nine-page document that tells them what to expect in the course and help understand diagrams and symbols. There were lots of details that they really had to pay attention to," she added.

Other prizes were raffled off yesterday to all participating teams, which also received goodies from Triple J Motors and Foremost Scoops.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

The winners of the 5th Beach Road Magazine Car Rally pose for a group photo during the awarding ceremony held at the Oleai Beach Bar & Grill yesterday. Joining them is Car Rally Master Susan Marchitti.

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TOYOTA

Senator wants to restrict qualifications for municipal council members

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) pre-filed on Friday a bill that prohibits municipal council members from being employed by the

mayor's office or privately contracted using the mayor's office's account or revenue generated from the gaming industry.

Hofschneider said he will introduce his Senate Bill 17-75 during the Senate's session on Wednesday.

"No person shall be employed under the Office of the Mayor's account(s) or any revenue generated account(s) through the gaming industry. However, member(s) of the Municipal Council are not exempted from being a civil service employee, a retiree, business

owner, private company, unemployed private citizen, or be employed under an autonomous agency," Hofschneider's bill partly reads.

In introducing the bill, Hofschneider said elected officials shall be free from any conflict of interest or acts of possible corruption.

His bill's findings state that it is improper for municipal council members to be employed or hold a private contract with the Office of the Mayor's account or revenue generated account

from the gaming industry.

SB 17-75 cites Article VI Section 7 of the Constitution, particularly subsections 1 to 4, relating to the powers of the municipal councils, including assisting the mayor in the formulation of the annual budget.

The bill also says Tinian and Rota currently have casino gaming commissions in which the municipal council decides to confirm or reconfirm the mayor's appointees for gaming commissioners.

FBI

From Page 1

reward for information leading to the whereabouts of the Luhk sisters may increase to \$50,000 as a company has expressed interest to pump up the monetary reward.

Pohaku, a 2-year-old male black Labrador retriever, failed to find 10-year-old Faloma and 9-year-old Maleina in his full-day search on Saturday. He was given a day-off yesterday.

"Even dogs deserve a day of rest. There's no new news coming out of Saturday, unfortunately," FBI special agent Tom Simon told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday afternoon.

Simon said Pohaku is looking forward to a full-week of sniffing work this week.

On Friday, Saipan's humidity was

too much for the dog, prompting his handlers to cut his work to just half a day on his second day of search.

A source at the Department of Public Safety disclosed on weekend that a company has expressed a plan to increase the current \$33,500 monetary reward to \$50,000.

Simon said he heard from a DPS official about a company that wants to add more monetary reward, but that he has no details about it.

If it is true, Simon said then it would be great and hopefully it will help in the search for the missing girls.

"The leads are really slowing down," said the special agent who is also the FBI Honolulu media relations coordinator.

On the information the FBI sought on a man with a distinctive facial birthmark, Simon said they interviewed about 10 people with birthmarks on

their faces based on community tips.

"None of whom remember being in the As Teo neighborhood on May 6 nor did they have any information to provide about the missing girls," he said.

However, Simon said, they photographed them all and that they are going to be showing all of their photographs to the witness who interacted with the "birthmark guy" to see if his memory is jagged.

On May 6, 2011 at approximately 10:30pm, a white four-door car with some body damage on the front passenger side was seen driving in the As Teo shrine area. The driver was described as about 30 years old and has a very distinctive birthmark on the right cheek.

The FBI and DPS said that man is neither a suspect in the disappearance of the girls nor a person of interest, but may help provide potential lead.

GOP

From Page 1

olinian Utt in Garapan on Friday night.

The Blue Ribbon Committee seeks to merge the Covenant and Republican Parties, but Fitial prefers to call it "transitioning" the Covenant Party to the Republican Party.

Fitial rejoined the Republican Party in January this year, 10 years after forming the Covenant Party in 2001 for his gubernatorial bid. He won on his second try in 2005.

The governor reiterated that the CNMI will get more assistance from the federal government if the sitting governor is a member of the Republican Party.

He cited, for example, the now Republican Congress which will be more sympathetic to the needs of the CNMI if it's headed also by a Republican.

When asked for comment, Inos told *Saipan Tribune* on Saturday afternoon that he's surprised by the governor's remarks because the governor has not personally told him anything about supporting his gubernatorial candidacy.

"I am focused on solving the government's financial problems, in restoring the work hours of so many government employees and in improving the economy, so politics is the least of my worries... I am not into that at this point," he said in a phone interview.

Inos reiterated that he's staying with the Covenant Party.

"I'm not moving to the Republican Party. I am staying where I am. The Covenant Party is intact. I ran with the governor and I am hoping that we will continue to work together and resolve the problems together. Right now, his supporters and my supporters are getting divided, which may make it difficult to work toward addressing many of our problems in the CNMI," the lieutenant governor said.

Fitial as delegate bet, GOP chair

Fitial said if Republicans want him to, he would like to be chairman of the Republican Party again.

But because he is a sitting governor, he cannot be chairman or president of the party, unless the party bylaws are amended.

He served as Republican Party chairman for more than 10 years.

Fitial can no longer seek re-election after serving his second term as governor. His second and last term expires in 2014.

Fitial said after his term as governor, he will run as delegate "if the people want him to."

During Fitial's first term as governor, his lieutenant governor was Timothy P. Villagomez, who was sentenced to seven years and three months in prison in connection with a corruption case involving federal funds.

Fitial appointed Inos, who was then Finance secretary, to become lieutenant governor to replace Villagomez.

In his reelection bid, Fitial teamed up with Inos.

Inos said on Saturday he would like the governor to support him if he runs as governor, but he said it's still too early to talk about 2014.

"We're only one and a half years into our five-year term, and there are still a lot of things that need to be done," Inos said.

But while Inos has been publicly saying he's sticking with the Covenant Party, Fitial said he is confident that most of his Cabinet members will follow him to the Republican Party.

"I am still working on the lieutenant governor to join me and join the Republican Party because we came from there. The lieutenant governor may have his own reason right now but at the end of the day, I really would like the lieutenant governor to join the Republican Party," Fitial said he has "committed" himself to supporting the lieutenant governor as the next governor.

"And that commitment still stands. The only way for me to make that commitment work is for him to join me in the Republican Party," the governor said.

'Transition, not merger'

Fitial said he needs to "educate more" some of those who have not yet decided to go back or join the Republican Party.

Oscar Rasa, chairman of Fitial's Blue Ribbon Committee whose goal is to merge the Covenant and Republican Parties, said he has 1,077 duly signed

petitions so far gathered to join the Republican Party.

But he said there are some 300 more who are willing to join but do not want their names revealed yet at this time.

There were some 50 individuals who attended the Blue Ribbon Committee meeting, which was capped with a dinner. In that meeting, some suggested the governor should "fire" his Cabinet members who do not want to join him at the Republican Party, while others talked about factions within the Covenant and Republican parties.

Fitial said while people call the Blue Ribbon Committee's end goal as "merger," he sees it more like a "transition."

"We've been meeting with the chairman of the Republican Party... so this transition will take place. It's just a matter of time... Actually it's really not a merger, it's just transitioning the Covenant Party over to the Republican (Party)" he said.

This means if Fitial's Blue Ribbon Committee succeeds in its goal, the Covenant Party may cease to exist.

But the Covenant Party is still intact, with its set of officers and members, many of them are either lawmakers or holding other elected and appointed posts.

Fitial said for the sake of the whole CNMI, there should be a unified Republican Party.

"I'm not stupid to abandon the Covenant Party but for the sake of the people, I have no choice but to align myself with the strongest political party now in the United States," the governor added.

Some Republicans

Besides Covenant Party members who do not want to join the governor to the Republican Party, Fitial also has to contend with Republicans who do not want him back at the Republican Party.

"I understand the problem. The problem is those people in the Republican Party who feel that way, those are the members... who always change their belief. They are not the real Republicans," said Fitial, who was former chairman of the Republican Party for more than 10 years.

The Republican Party has yet to hold a general membership meeting, four months after its scheduled meeting.

LAWSUIT

From Page 1

Buckingham filed a lawsuit against Pai on June 13 over the Office of the Public Auditor's hiring of two lawyers.

One of the lawyers, Joseph John Przyuski, was the lead OPA investigator in the complaints filed against Buckingham's campaign-related activities in 2010.

But Pai said he has also just received the AG complaint.

"We just started analyzing it. As such, we cannot comment on its merits at this time," Pai said in a response to *Saipan Tribune's* e-mail questions.

But Pai, in responding to other questions, said in January and February 2011, the AG made inquiries with the CNMI Bar Association and the CNMI Supreme Court "seeking unsuccessfully to find that Joe Przyuski was not a bar member in good standing."

The CNMI Bar Association's website lists Przyuski as an "active member."

The list is available at <http://www.cnmibar.net/members.asp>.

Pai said in April 2011, the AG conducted a review of two of OPA's legal counsel contracts.

"OPA responded to the April inquiry explaining its contracting practices and justifying its actions. Now comes a lawsuit regarding the same two contracts. One can only ponder where this is all leading to. It is troubling that the Office of the Attorney General is focusing so many resources on OPA's internal matters, when there are so many worthy matters needing attention," the public auditor said.

As of June 30, 2010, OPA referred audit recommendations in seven audit reports to the OAG for legal action to recover monies improperly expended.

Based on these seven audit reports, some \$2.6 million is potentially recoverable.

"The [OAG] did not provide OPA an update on these referral cases during OPA's follow-up process, therefore, the status of these referrals remains unchanged," OPA said in the latest report on CNMI agencies' implementation of audit recommendations as of June 30, 2010.

OPA investigated complaints filed with OPA regarding Buckingham's alleged hosting of a gathering for the campaign of then Covenant Party delegate candidate Joseph Camacho.

The gathering was held at Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's private residence in Gualo Rai on Aug. 28, 2010.

What Fitial has to say

The governor, in an interview on Friday night, said OPA's report on the investigation it conducted on Buckingham's presence at the gathering indicated that Buckingham violated the law.

But Fitial said Buckingham did not violate any law.

The governor said he need not release the OPA report, released in De-

cember.

"Buckingham did not violate any law. The report says that he violated. So I proved that he did not violate," Fitial said.

When asked by *Saipan Tribune* how the governor arrived at the conclusion that the AG did not violate any law, the governor responded: "Because there's no law barring what Buckingham did."

This, he said, was contained in his response to the OPA report.

He said OPA responded back. "Very, very disrespectful," Fitial said, when asked about OPA's response.

He declined to elaborate. The Fitial administration and OPA repeatedly declined to release a copy of the report or at least portions of the report.

"I don't want to elaborate but I just want to say this. OPA thinks that, you know, that they are god," Fitial said.

The governor told the media not to mix the AG lawsuit against the public auditor, and the OPA investigation on the AG.

"Like I said, there's no law that bars the attorney general from doing what he did but there is law prohibiting violation of the acts committed by certain staffers from (OPA)," Fitial said, adding that the lawsuit should not be discussed.

'Retaliation'

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan said on Friday that if the AG did not do anything wrong, he should release the OPA report.

Private citizen Glen Hunter also called on for the release of the OPA report.

Both Sablan and Hunter were among the individuals who filed a complaint with OPA against Buckingham's hosting of a campaign gathering for a delegate candidate.

"It would not surprise me if the lawsuit filed against the OPA in regards to Joe Przyuski's contract was a retaliatory action against them for the report that was issued regarding Buckingham's hosting of a political gathering during the last election. I was one of many who filed complaints with the OPA to investigate the matter. It is public knowledge that a report with recommendations was given to the Governor in December of 2010," Hunter said.

Buckingham hired Atty. G Anthony Long for \$200 an hour to represent him in his official and personal capacity in connection with an OPA investigation of the AG's hosting of a party for a delegate candidate.

Long billed the CNMI government \$12,940 for that representation which ended in February, said press secretary Angel Demapan.

Hunter said there are numerous questionable contracts that the OAG has either approved or ignored, and the most ironic of all is a sole-sourced contract for personal defense representation for Buckingham related to OPA's probe on the AG's actions.

Award of \$2.8M amended, govt now owes trader \$4.1M

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman has found the CNMI government's liability to a businessman for breaching a building lease in 1997 is now \$4.1 million and not \$2.8 million as the court had previously determined.

Wiseman last week amended the order he issued last month to reflect that the government now owes a total of \$4,130,919.78 to Joaquin M. Manglona.

Wiseman's previous order awarded Manglona \$1,826,838 in original principal judgment amount; \$376,654.69 in prejudgment interest, financial charges and penalties; \$414,403.30 in additional costs and losses; and \$196,542.57 in lost opportunity, for a total of \$2,814,438.56 as of Nov. 10, 2010.

In amending the order,

the judge added an award of \$1,316,481.22 in post judgment interest to Nov. 10, 2010. This would now bring to a total award of \$4,130,919.78.

Wiseman made the amendment after Manglona timely filed a motion requesting the court's reconsideration of its ruling with respect to denial of post judgment interest.

The judge heard the motion on June 9, 2011. Attorney Douglas F. Cushnie appeared for Manglona, but the government neither filed any response to the motion nor appeared at the hearing.

Manglona filed a \$2.3 million lawsuit against the government in 1997 for alleged non-payment of lease rentals of the building previously occupied by the then CNMI Immigration and Naturalization Office.

In 2003, Wiseman issued an order that found the government to have breached its building

lease to Manglona. He awarded plaintiff \$1.8 million plus post-judgment interest.

Both parties appealed.

In January 2007, Wiseman amended the award of damages and determined that the government is liable to pay \$1.4 million to Manglona.

In June 2010, the CNMI Supreme Court upheld the court's ruling but found that the pre-judgment interest rate awarded was not enough to compensate Manglona for his actual losses.

The Supreme Court remanded the case to the Superior Court to determine an adequate interest rate that would compensate the businessman for actual losses.

After conducting an evidentiary hearing on Dec. 2, 2010 and Jan. 31, 2011, Wiseman in May 2011 issued the order that found the government's liability to Manglona now reaching \$2.8 million.

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Simple ceremony ushers in Liberation Day festivities

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The opening of the 2011 Liberation Day festivities was marked with a simple ceremony held at the Garapan Fishing Base on Friday night.

The Marianas High School JROTC Color Guards did the posting of the colors, while pastor Tim Williams delivered the invocation. The Umang Glee Club of the Koblerville Elementary School performed the U.S. and the CNMI national anthems.

John Hosono served as the

master of ceremony at Friday's opening night.

2011 Liberation Day chair Jonas Barcinas, in his remarks, said the annual celebration is a reminder of the inspiring bravery in the face of adversity of the men and women who lived and fought during the war.

"Let us thank everyone who has made our liberation possible. Sixty-six years of liberation is a profound achievement that many individuals do not have," he told his audience.

Barcinas urged the community to "learn from the past and

be brave." "Let us take our liberation and be the best humans we can be," he added.

Rep. Raymond Palacios (Cov-Saipan) replaced Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) as the keynote speaker at the event.

In an interview, Palacios

2010 Liberation Day Queen Josifynn Vivian "Peachy" Quitugua and second runner-up Angela Aldan join this year's candidates Joni C. Castro, Mariah I. Ada, and Nizelynn T. Masayos on stage during the opening of the festivities Friday night.

CLARISSA V. DAVID



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said the time has come for the community to honor the countless lives sacrificed in exchange for freedom.

"We should not take this occasion for granted because there were human lives sacrificed and spared. We should also teach the younger generations about the significance of this event," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The three Liberation Day Queen candidates—Joni C. Castro, Mariah I. Ada, and Nizelynn Masayos—were also introduced to the audience that night.

"They will be selling their tickets and please do not shy from it. Please help by purchasing some to help run the operation effectively. Raffle tickets are also available on the grounds," said Barcinas.

The Liberation carnival grounds will be open on weekdays from 6pm to 11pm except on Wednesdays and Fridays, which will be from 7pm to 11pm to give to the scheduled mass at Kristo Rai Church.

On Saturdays and Sundays, the carnival grounds will be open from 6pm to midnight.

The Liberation festivities, which will be highlighted by the annual Fourth of July parade, will run until July 10.

2011 SUMMER YOUTH CAMP

"Promoting Health and Cultural Awareness in our Youth"

*Sponsored by the Division of Youth Services
In collaboration with NMC Area Health Education Center (AHEC)*

**Health and Wellness Camp will start on:
July 11 to July 22, 2011**

**Arts and Crafts Camp will start on:
August 01 to August 12, 2011**

\$5
per
Child / Camp

The **Health and Wellness Camp** is a two-week program designed to keep our CNMI youth active, to improve their athletic skills, learn the value of sportsmanship, and encourage them to live healthy and active lifestyles.

The **Arts and Crafts Camp** is also a two-week program focused on promoting healthy relationships, teaching children survival skills, enhancing their leadership and team building skills, as well as learning traditional arts & crafts making.

**Please register your child(ren), ages 6 to 12 years old, by completing and submitting a registration form at the Division of Youth Services or at NMC AHEC (Bldg. P).
Deadline for Application is June 30, 2011.**

For more information call Abner Venus from Division of Youth Services at Tel.: 664-2550/1 or call Orrin Pharmin from NMC at Tel.: 234-5498 Ext. 1020 / 1010

PUBLIC NOTICE

Network Maintenance

As part of our ongoing commitment to our customers, IT&E engineers will be adding new equipment to our network on Tuesday, **June 21st** from **1am - 5am**. During this time, DSL Customers in Tinian and Rota CNMI will experience a temporary loss of service and all CNMI customers will also experience periods of intermittent internet connection. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience experienced during this upgrade. IT&E appreciates your patience and understanding while we continue to serve the Marianas.

For more information,
Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)**
or email us at ipnoc@ite.net

PSS to move out of Fund building

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System is now searching for new building space for its central offices based on the request for proposal it issued last week.

This PSS refused the proposal offered by the NMI Retirement Fund—the owner of the building it is renting in Capitol Hill.

In a special meeting Friday, Fund officials and the board of trustees expressed their surprise on the move of PSS, disclosing that the agency was not notified about PSS' decision to move out of its building.

But the board of trustees was firm in its decision to only approve a new lease for PSS if all arrears and required deposits are settled by the system.

Saipan Tribune learned that PSS has incurred unpaid lease and power obligations to the Fund totaling \$278,625 as of April 30 this year. The lease term has expired on the same date but was extended for another two months under the same rate.

However, board chair Sixto Igisomar, in his recent letter to education board chair Marylou Ada disclosed that after the two-month extension, "any hold over will be on a non-consensual basis and will be subject to increased rent in accordance with the terms of the lease."

Fund officials revealed that PSS is approved \$1.33/ft rental rate under the existing agreement. PSS, it was disclosed, has appealed for a reduction of rent to \$1.00 per square foot per month for 12-month term.

Igisomar said that the trustees have agreed to the rate reduc-

tion proposal but established conditions for PSS to comply. These include paying in full the outstanding obligation of \$278,625; upon execution of the renewal, PSS shall continuously maintain a security deposit equal to three months at the new rental rate; and should also maintain a \$40,000 deposit for utilities, or establish a separate account with Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

"We are unwilling to renew your lease on any terms unless and until you first bring your account current, and that all payments received will first be applied to amounts past due," said Igisomar in his letter to the education board, adding that based on the lease agreement, absent its consent to holdover, PSS is subject to holdover rent equal to 125 percent of the current rate of \$1.33 per square foot. The "holdover" expires on June 30.

The Fund admitted Friday that no response was received from the board regarding this decision.

PSS finance director Richard Waldo and the system's procurement officer Robert Florian confirmed to *Saipan Tribune* the request for proposal issued by PSS on June 15 and the intention of the system to relocate central offices to a bigger but cheaper cost.

Waldo said PSS is looking into paying portion of the arrears within the month.

Meantime, the Fund trustees have agreed to submit a bid for the PSS announcement with the same rate and conditions it proposed to the education board. The board also adopted a request for proposal for the soon-to-be vacated space.

Company sues ex-GM for allegedly embezzling funds

A company has sued its former general manager for allegedly embezzling money, including unauthorized purchase of dog food and stone ring.

Yama's Co., doing business as Saipan Yama's Co., sued Makoto Hirata for breach of fiduciary duty, fraudulent misrepresentation, and conversion.

Yama's Co., through counsel Judy DLG. Torres, asked the Superior Court to order Hirata to pay the company \$105,236 in special damages, plus unspecified amount of other damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Saipan Tribune tried to reach Hirata for comment yesterday, but his telephone number as listed in the directory is no longer in service.

Torres stated in the complaint that Hirata was employed by Yama's Co. as the general manager, from April 2006 until July 2009, and was a board of director for the company from October 2006 until July 2009.

Torres said in his capacity as a general manager and or board of director, Hirata was the sig-

natory for the company.

She said the defendant's responsibilities included receiving and depositing monies issued to Yama's Co., making purchases for plaintiff and recording daily receipts and disbursements.

Torres said beginning December 2006, Hirata allegedly began to embezzle money from the company.

The lawyer said Hirata embezzled by fraudulently representing on the books of Yama's Co. that his purchases were for matters related to the operation of the company in the total amount of \$105,236, when in fact the purchases were for his personal gain and use.

Examples of defendant's unauthorized purchases are restaurant meals, dog food, utility payments for his own residential unit, stone ring, and so forth.

Torres said that, in December 2009, plaintiff confronted Hirata of the embezzlement and that he admitted his fraudulent actions in wrongfully using \$105,236 of the company's funds. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Camacho, Alcantara top SSHS graduates

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

James Hegarty Camacho and Jan Kimberly Alcantara were hailed most outstanding graduates of Saipan Southern High School during the school's commencement exercises Friday night.

Camacho, 18, is this year's recipient of the prestigious Board of Education award and the 2011 class valedictorian. He was also bestowed numerous special recognitions including the gold presidential excellence award, best in English, science, and social studies.

The top honor is the son of Maria and Arthur Camacho and will further his studies at the University of Hawaii-Manoa to

pursue a course in biology.

In his valedictory address, Camacho urged his peers to continue to persevere for their future and strive for excellence in education.

This year's class salutatorian was Jan Kimberly Alcantara, the daughter of Ligaya and Jerry Alcantara. Besides the Commissioner of Education award, the 18-year-old student was also bestowed special recognitions for her academic excellence and achievements.

She will pursue nursing at Northern Marianas College next semester and plans to further her studies at the University of Guam.

For Alcantara, "hard work, patience, and determination"



JAMES HEGARTY CAMACHO
Valedictorian



JAN KIMBERLY ALCANTARA
Salutatorian

James Hegarty Camacho, Jan Kimberly Alcantara, So Jung Song, Dahee Kim, Ann Mariel Flores, Li Ra Park, Donovan Jake Tudela, Joseph Jang, Kaelani Marie Demapan, and Fumi Nimura.

SSHs principal Jesse Tudela, along with Board of Education chair Marylou Ada and Education Commissioner Rita Sablan, conferred diplomas to 151 graduates in the graduation ceremony that was attended by hundreds of families, guests, and supporters.

The event was keynoted by Atty. Robert Torres and Marianas High School principal Craig Garrison. The latter used to be the principal of SSHS.

are among the greatest lessons she learned throughout her high school.

Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos bestowed the governor's award to Mark Nhovert P. San Juan, while school administrator Jesse Tudela named Coquina Leah T. Teregyo as the class principal's leadership awardee.

On the Top Ten list were



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Club at the Hyatt cards welcome

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Club at the Hyatt cards welcome

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BOR chair questions exclusion of honorary members in executive sessions

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas College Board of Regents chair Juan Lizama last Friday questioned the practice of excluding honorary members of the board during executive sessions.

In a special board meeting, Lizama expressed his willingness to include the honorary members in future executive sessions—an idea opposed by regents Elaine Orilla and Frank Rabauliman, citing that the closed-door meetings tackle important and highly

confidential matters about the college.

There are three honorary members on the board who serve as non-voting individuals—president of Associated Students of NMC; faculty staff president; and staff senate president.

The chair earlier asked interim president Lorraine Cabrera on who originally decided to exclude honorary members in closed-door sessions.

Cabrera said it's been a long time since non-voting members were allowed participation during executive sessions and it

was during her stint as staff senate president.

Based on its bylaws, it is the board's prerogative to include or exclude the non-voting members in its executive meetings.

Orilla said she's not comfortable allowing non-voting members to attend executive sessions because it may impact the board's operation and policy.

But for Lizama, the presence of the non-voting members aims to bring more ideas and voices to the discussion table and not to bring such information out to their peers.

The chairman also pointed

out that the inclusion of the said members is limited to non-personnel issues only.

John Cook, NMC acting faculty senate president, welcomes Lizama's recommendation and assured the regents that he would keep "confidentiality" rule on his part.

However the board did not come up with a "decision" last Friday.

Meantime, the board suspended its policy 1015 which requires them to elect new officer/officers every last Thursday of June each year.

Lizama explained that only the vice chairperson position will be up for grabs in the election which is re-scheduled on July 14. Orilla's term as vice chairperson expires this month.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 20, 2000

BOE pursues honorarium for traveling members

The State Board of Education is currently looking into possible changes to its own by laws with regard to a board policy which does not specify that board members are entitled to receive honorarium while on official travel status. Citing a certain provision in the BOE by laws, Public School System Legal Counsel Tim Connor said that though it is not against existing BOE rules to provide honorarium to any board member traveling under PSS-related business, existing practices dictate otherwise. Mr. Connor commented the practice is somewhat "discriminatory" especially for non-Saipan board members since most board meetings are held here. "We have a situation where we have a meeting on Saipan and Tinian or Rota members are not paid honorarium because they're considered under travel status," said Mr. Connor.

PSS faces a hard time in hiring specialists

The Public School System is currently experiencing difficulties in hiring licensed experts that would support the needs of special education students in all the 16 schools across the Northern Marianas. PSS legal counsel Tim Connor has mentioned two concerns which hinder the system from acquiring physical therapists under its special education program. Mr. Connor said that PSS is facing difficulty in competing with other school districts in recruiting licensed physical therapists to work on the islands of Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. "What the Commonwealth board is doing is requiring the physical therapists to be licensed in one of the 50 states," said Mr. Connor.

June 20, 2001

Banks lend \$21.4M in guarantee loans

Bank of Guam has topped the list of participants with the highest amount of approved credits released to local borrowers under the Commonwealth Development Authority's loan guaranty program. CDA Executive Secretary MaryLou S. Ada said \$12.5 million in guaranty loans were approved and released by Bank of Guam as of May 31, accounting for about half of the total \$21 million credit packages lent out under the program. "Throughout the years, Bank of Guam has proven itself to be very supportive of the CDA's guaranty loan program," Ada said. Bank of Saipan was the second biggest lender under the CDA guaranty loan program with over \$7.5 million, followed by City Trust Bank with \$980,000 and Bank of Hawaii with \$110,000.

Mandatory prenatal HIV education eyed

Saipan congressman Dino M. Jones yesterday proposed a program that would require pregnant women to undergo counseling and screening at the Commonwealth Health Center to prevent prenatal transmission of HIV. This proposal came as the Department of Public Health disclosed an alarming rate of HIV cases in the Northern Marianas, with one new case reported annually. To date, there are at least 38 cases recorded at the health department, including the first case of HIV transmission from a mother to her newborn in 1998. Jones said a mandatory prenatal HIV education should be promptly put in place to educate all pregnant women regarding HIV prevention and transmission.

June 20, 2002

Atalig scrambles to help Rota

Responding to Rota's cry for help, Sen. Ricardo S. Atalig said he is now trying to arrange a meeting with Gov. Juan N. Babauta and his financial officials and Rota Mayor Benjamin Manglona to avert a possible budget crisis on the island. "The Mayor has requested me to arrange the meeting with the Governor, the Finance Department and Planning and Budget, to see what we can do to resolve this employment problem on Rota," said the senator. In a letter to Atalig, Manglona had asked the senator to arrange the meeting, to avert a possible payless payday on Rota, or worse, municipal employees actually losing their jobs.

Location finalized in Rota CIP projects

The stalled Capital Improvement Projects on Rota can now go into full swing after the Department of Public Works and the Marianas Public Lands Authority signed the final agreement identifying the location for two of the four projects. Public Works Secretary John S. Reyes said he signed the agreement with MPLA yesterday that identifies the specific lots where the Judicial Complex and the Department of Public Safety building will be sited. This jump-starts the efforts to get the \$4.5-million projects underway.


DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **June 21**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **June 21**.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.


*You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **June 21**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.



To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:


SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Laulau/Tinian/Rota Office– up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Board of Parole

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Parole Hearing

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and LT. Governor Eloy Inos, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a **Parole Hearing** is scheduled for **June 22, 2011, (Wednesday)** beginning at **1:00 p.m.**, and if need be, continue on **June 23, 2011 (Thursday)** at **8:30 a.m.** at the **Vicente Taman Seman Building, Department of Corrections, Briefing/Training Room, Susupe, Saipan, MP.**


The following items are included in the agenda:

- I. Preliminary Matters**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Presence of Quorum
- II. Consent Items**
 1. Adoption of Agenda
 2. Adoption of Parole Hearing Minutes – February 17, 2011
- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| III. Parole Application | BOP No. | Criminal Case No. |
| 1. Oscar Reyes Babauta | 11-003 | 97-0031 |
| 2. Elaine Quitugua Terlaje | 09-017 | 07-0107C |
| 3. James Michael Fitzgerald | 11-005 | 08-0054E |
- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| IV. Revocation | BOP No. | Criminal Case No. |
| 1. Ignacio M. Leon Guerrero | 09-RA-002 | 07-0100B |
- V. Miscellaneous**
 1. Other Matters
- VI. Adjournment**

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Rose Ada-Hocog
Acting Chairwoman, Board of Parole


Date: 06/09/2011



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION

June 16, 2011

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. ASIA MARINE SPORTS	03/10/2011 SPIm-2011-X-020	WAKEBOARD OPERATION	FISHING BASE	LAGOON & REEF APC	APPROVED(06/08/2011)*
2. ICHIBAN MARINE SPORTS	04/12/2011 SSm-2011-X-026	WAKEBOARD OPERATION	GARAPAN	LAGOON & REEF APC	APPROVED(03/08/2011)*
3. MAC'S MARINE SPORTS	04/27/2011 SLRm-2011-X-027	AQUA WALKER OPERATION	FISHING BASE	LAGOON & REEF APC	APPROVED(06/08/2011)*
4. TATAGA MARINE SPORTS	06/03/2011 SS/LR-2011-X-038	JET SKI OPERATION	IN FRONT OF CAROLINIAN HUT, GARAPAN	LAGOON & REEF APC	UNDER REVIEW
5. SAIPAN DIVE ACADEMY	06/10/2011 SPIm-2011-X-039	DRY DOCK	SOUTH SEA PLANE RAMP	PORTS & INDUSTRIAL APC	APPROVED(06/14/2011)*

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-11-040 DEBT COLLECTION LEGAL SERVICES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from from debt collection attorneys to assist in the collection of delinquent utility billings for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The CUC intends to place selected accounts with one or more attorney. Submitted proposals must indicate how the CUC will be kept informed of the progress of each account placed with the attorney, as well as provide a summary and detail report of all accounts placed. In addition, proposals must provide for the total listing of the gross amount of all collections with a separate billing for attorney services rendered.

The RFP Package and the Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 16, 2011 at 11:00 AM (ChST)**, at CUC Main Conference Room No. 10, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-040, Debt Collection Legal Services" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than July 08, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 20, 2011 to Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email address charles_warren@cucgov.net; Mr. Manuel Sablan Purchasing Officer msablan@cucgov.net; and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



SIZE MATTERS

Midi "Measure" your catch so we can fish tomorrow

Find the right size catch on the new ruler and poster

Are the sizes listed in the poster and ruler a new law?

No, this is not a new law or regulation. The sizes listed are recommendations based on the average size at which our fish begin to produce eggs, this size is called L50.

How does choosing fish that are the 'right size' help the reef?

Harvesting, buying or eating fish below the listed L50 sizes reduces the number of spawning fish in the reef, resulting in less fish for tomorrow. These recommended sizes are not applicable to early juvenile runs (like manahak and l'e).

Where do the size recommendations come from?

The L50 sizes are based on the best available life-history data with input from local and regional agencies and scientific journals.

Check fishing events and conservation offices for rulers and posters!

More at: sizematterscnmi.blogspot.com

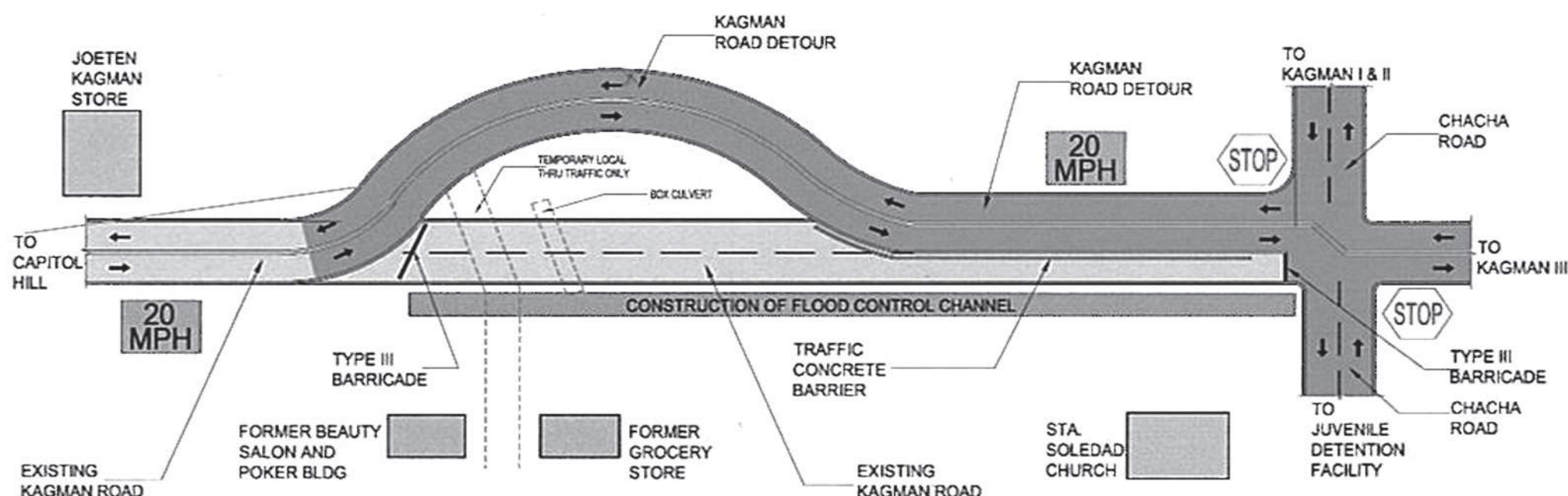


NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Effective June 23, 2011, Kagman Road traffic will be detoured as depicted below to allow for the safe construction of an underground Flood Control Channel and a large Box Culvert as part of the Kagman Watershed Project. This paved detour is expected to remain in place throughout the construction at a reduced speed of 20 MPH.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

RNV CONSTRUCTION



Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXI, Issue No. 144Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Freeloading days are over for NATO

American enthusiasm for the 62-year-old North American Treaty Organization is, rightly, fading.

On one level, this is a difficult truth to acknowledge: For much of the last six decades, NATO has been an unqualified success.

But times and finances have changed, yet NATO remains primarily an American burden. Too many European nations use this umbrella to provide their security at U.S. expense. When NATO was a counterbalance to an aggressive Soviet Union, and Europe was rebuilding from the devastation of World War II, the imbalance made sense. It no longer does, however.

This nation is mired in a debilitating financial crunch, and the political mood is to quickly reduce deficit spending. Protecting current levels of military spending will have a long-term and damaging effect on American infrastructure, which will have a long-term effect on our economy.

The United States cannot continue to carry nations unwilling to properly share the financial and on-the-ground burdens of the world's most powerful international military organization.

Last week, Defense Secretary Robert Gates warned other NATO members that a moment of reckoning approaches. He explained that Americans for "whom the Cold War was not the formative experience that it was for me may not consider the return on America's investment in NATO worth the cost."

Beyond that, this nation certainly can't continue to spend nearly half the total amount of money spent globally on militaries. Right now, the United States, with the world's highest gross domestic product, spends two to almost five times the percentage of GDP of other NATO members. This is too heavy a burden.

Rumors coming out of a recent NATO meeting in Brussels are that Gates called out some nations by name for not pulling their weight. The Obama administration would do well to stick to this line.

It is hoped that NATO has a long and productive future, but for that to be the case, this country must be able to step down its military spending, and other members must make up the difference.

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The CNMI can become economically strong again if...

After reading several essays on the question of why some countries become economically strong and others do not, they got me thinking about our situation in the CNMI. What do we have to do to become economically strong? As I share some of my thoughts, please add some of your own and see where we meet or disagree.

I am reminded of Nauru, once so wealthy, and its fall from being the world's richest citizens to utter poverty in just a few years. It had huge natural deposits of phosphate. Now it has all been mined out and Nauru has become one of the poorest countries in the world. Its money has been spent and the people live in extreme poverty. How could this happen?

Somali next comes to mind. Since the outbreak of the Somali Civil War in 1991, there has been no central government control over most of the country's territory. As a result Somalia has been characterized as a failed state and is one of the poorest and most violent states in the world. My conclusion is that a country need not be rich in natural minerals, but rich in its quality of citizens!

Simply put, a successful country is one that provides a high standard of living or a quality of life in which each citizen can express himself and feel secure. It is a country in which every citizen is well educated and is trained in various skills of work. As a result these successful countries enjoy tremendous stability and prosperity. Here are the names of only a few of the more successful countries: Finland, Singapore, Switzerland, Japan and Austria. Notice that none of them possess any natural resources, only motivated citizens!

Writer John Issa pointed out in one of his essays three characteristics of prosperous nations. It is interesting to note that Mr. Issa also stated that many prosperous nations don't necessarily possess much natural resources. To prove his point, Mr. Issa pointed to several non-prosperous countries that have tremendous amounts of natural resources, yet they continually find themselves mired in huge pockets of poverty and tremendous challenges of social and economic unrest. For example, study the history of several African countries and South American countries.

One of the first characteristics of a successful country, wrote Mr. Issa, is that the people of the successful countries put a premium on quality education for all citizens and this result shows in their productivity. The people are fairly highly educated and have a strong incentive for work.

A second characteristic is that these successful countries display a great deal of honesty in government and in the overall society. While in our society, the U.S. and in the less prosperous ones, governments and individuals in significant numbers seem constantly mired in scandal and corruption. As a matter of fact, crime seems to pay in the case of special interest groups and individuals who operate above and outside the law.

Consider some of these activities daily being paraded in the media. Is it any wonder that the U.S. and we in the CNMI are beginning to feel the depressing results started over the years from these unsavory activities? There is too much of "What is in it for me?" attitude.

Mr. Issa states that the third characteristic of these prosperous societies is that they are functioning democracies. It seems that democracy goes beyond just lip service and ballot casting. However in less prosperous countries too often people don't know their democratic rights; laws are inconsistent and sometimes take away rather than protect civil rights.

A fourth one that I would add is that these prosperous countries have a characteristic of respect for the environment and for one another. In other words, a mutual respect and pride in where they live and who they are.

In a recent issue of *Time Magazine*, writer Tali Sharot states that to make progress we need to be able to imagine alternative re-

By **ANTHONY PELLEGRINO**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



alties—better ones—and we need to believe that we can achieve them. Such faith helps motivate us to pursue our goals.

In other words we must become optimists. Even if that better future is often an illusion, optimism has clear benefits in the present. Hope keeps our minds at ease, lowers stress, and improves physical health. This wholesome positive attitude of optimism must be cultivated and promoted by our leaders. Simply put: optimism pays!

Having lived and worked in Japan for 16 years, I learned first hand what optimism means. One of my first opportunities was to work for a Japanese automobile parts manufacturer. I helped introduce coin operated lockers to the Japanese market. Because the concept was so new they were not quickly accepted.

Though I was discouraged, the Japanese president was not. He encouraged me to keep plugging away at the market. Finally after six months we received a small order. It took another three months to achieve another small order. After that, orders began to flow in, and the company achieved success and the product became popular.

There are other examples I could relate that proved to me the importance of having optimism and faith in the future. Nothing possesses more kinetic energy in a globalizing world than optimism.

Much of Japan's success can be traced to the country's economic disadvantages. Lacking in resources, Japanese firms were forced to develop skills and technologies. The Japanese have been able to turn disadvantages into advantages. Watch Japan in the next few years as she rebuilds herself from her recent tumult and devastating tragedy.

From all my research I have arrived at the following conclusions that we in the CNMI must do if we are to become prosperous and a happy society:

1. The first one is that we need a strong government that can mobilize and direct resources that are important. Our success hinges critically on the quality of government leadership. It must be a development oriented leadership, and possess the ability to promote good talent to head critical institutions. It must develop a collaborative approach to policy formulation with industry and the United States, our benefactor. The public sector and the private sector must be as partners. There must be mutually beneficial partnerships, not antagonistic knee jerking relationships.

Will this ever happen here as long as we continue to vote for relatives and friends regardless of their experience in leadership? Will we ever realize that quality of government leadership has little room for nepotism and for sycophants? When will we citizens stand up and demand that we enjoy decent public utilities, high quality medical treatment, and decent job opportunities?

Until we demand reform in our political and social environment, we will remain an economic failure. And there will be no one to blame but ourselves. We possess the weapon to make the changes, but do we possess the will and determination required? Think about it!

2. One of the major points to achieving economic prosperity is to train and motivate our labor force whether it be in the office or in our fields. We must take up the tools of all professions and trades and do the work ourselves. We must wrest ourselves from imported labor.

Next week let's discuss this second point in greater detail for I believe that our educated, trained, and motivated workforce is the

See **THE CNMI** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

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June is bursting out

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



The image of June for us oldies is the “bursting out all over the meadows and the hills” with the corn in Kansas knee high, etc., vintage, “Oh, What a Beautiful morning.” Of course, only tornadoes have been bursting out all over Kansas and Oklahoma of late, so the image recedes to the background this year.

Bursting out into the Shenyang skyline are fireworks, which means, either a store is opening or someone is getting married. It appears that June brides have become a successful marketing gimmick in the land of one-child families and the spectacle of eight (a happiness number) black limousines going around a few blocks for a couple of commercialized matrimonial bliss is not uncommon.

The Zhongguo ancient observation that women hold up half of the sky has moved out of metaphor into the doorsteps of many public, private, and civic institutions. Sino land has also awakened to the fact that its male preference has bloated its population ratio to an estimated 52 males for every 48 female, giving females the option to take their time in choosing a mate. A despondent university student two weeks ago jumped off his dorm's 5th floor a month before graduating because his girlfriend decided to break up their long running liaison. He had wanted to formalize the relationship and the bride got cold feet.

We might say the same with Hugh Hefner's runaway bride. The Playboy personified was left at the altar on what would have been his fourth trip. Former Supreme Court Justice William Orville Douglas is better known for his judicial opinions but reviled for his coldness in the matrimonial front, stern and demanding even to those who labored on his behalf. He also did four marriages, with ladies considerably younger than he was. We won't go far on this

train since we are familiar with the May-to-October phenomenon and our derailment took in a few hard licks on the ego that is just getting overcome.

Of course, the institution of marriage has been embattled since Marie was finally allowed to join the workforce while the men folks are too busy waging war, coupled with women's suffrage coming to its own, at least, in the western hemisphere, and feminine presence a welcomed development in boardrooms and beyond the glass ceilings.

Marriage evolved into a form of social contract in the West, and it is no longer uncommon to have prenuptial agreements inked before repeating the act in front of solemn assemblies. Unfortunately, whatever remnants remaining of the old eros has been cauterized and sanitized in the antiseptic surroundings of the urban and suburban home nests.

We have forgotten that June's bursting is fundamentally a proclivity of the loins before anything else. Congress member Anthony Weiner of NYC's undisciplined display of his wiener to cyber space playmates reminds us that the live affirmation of our physicality is stuck in the social Dark Ages of puritanical cloakrooms while it hangs upfront in the imaginal threshold of our media fueled sex obsessions.

We swoon over a couple's picture that earned them more than 15 minutes of fame. Canucks' Alex Thomas and Oz Scott Jones were caught in an iconic love-embrace-kiss seen around the world while Alex was down on the ground in the melee following Vancouver's loss to the Boston Bruins in the final home game of the Stanley Cup.

Of course, the new Florida trial of Casey Anthony accused of killing her daughter Caylee gets a new twist when revelation is made of FBI tests to determine Caylee's paternity. It appears that Casey was molested by her own kin, which leads one to think further that perhaps, the Casey's father may have doubted her paternity as not his own. As the World turns.

A 10-year old local girl trusted a man for six years and when she turned 16, he raped her and then dropped her like a used Garapan condom. Three years later, he runs into the man. Asking him why she was abandoned in her youthful disgrace, the man lamely professed that he was afraid she was going to report him to authorities. Duh!

A Gringo married to an Asian girl is in the process of getting a divorce as wife who took American citizenship no longer wishes to return to her country of origin. He does. She gets half of his retirement benefits and the house. His term of her “gold digging” reveals more about his age (the act is now called Internet subscription

kinine'ña, ilegña, “Hmmm! Ketu prim sa' gigon tumalag hilu'yu' malachai magagau tinampegu tiau yan sesyun”. De dios mihu!

■ ■ ■

Dispues, umasudayu' yan otru primuhu ginen i gualu. Hu señas para bai'n kuentos un' ratu. Hana' liliku' kalulotña na esta i birada. Era, mamua matan nika ya debi una' fattu gi gima antes de u masiente ni man-amiguña siha. Magahet, na debi ha' esta tapan faye 'nai guaha dididi' suette para sentadan familia. Gigon unna' geftau hau ni manñge chalegmu siempre hagu dada'da' gi uttimu!

■ ■ ■

I plantasman chinatsaga gaige gi todú apusientun familia guine. Ayu mas man-sinasa'pet i mañasaga Luta yan Tinian. Mas guaguan i presiun fektus siha gi dos tanu. Mas guaguan lokue i gaselina ke iya Saipan.

Todu pot todú doble presiun nesessidat siha gi dos islas. Esta i asunto mattu gi eskalera emerensiya ya debi i man-ma'gasta u fañgalamten ya uma-espihayé ausiliu i tautau siha gi dos islas. Pot fabot sa' mattu papa' gi fondun tañke i pinadesen familia siha. Hafa mohan? —

Dose na membron lehislatura man-bakasion giya Palau gi talulu' gi chubaskun taya' salape para fondun programan scholarship. Ahe' ti para ta choma' disposision niha. Lau dalai magahet ya para uma-hasñgon man-pasehu gi talulu' gi halom didog na paygon hai'las?

Huñgan megai mañaina man-ginitus hagian haga' niha pot un' chinatsaga gi ma-añoñogoghu na ayudon salape ni eskuelante siha guihe lagu. Sa' yangin mohan suficiente abisu malagños pot chinatsagan fondu, ti umasusufa' pagu i mattiñgan man-e'ensinahyau ausiliu.

Mauleg lokue u guaha kinemprende pot direchon famaguonta man-ma-eduka. I konstitusion ti ha inklusu edukasion kehehu soluke elementariu hulu' esta' i dose gradu. I teteñnan obligasion kada familia 'sino mañaina. Klaru este na probision gi papa' i konstitusion iya Marianas.

Debi mohan lokue i lehislatura de u atan kabales gi hilu antau na eskalera kau propiu i para u appruaba un' programman scholarship 'nai mampas aseguru futunaña. Mas chatsaga i tanu mas lokue' appenas man-hugagandu poker i tautau siha. Mananana na maribaha dañkulu i rinikohen tax ginen este na industria. Makat enteru kinalamten Marianas na biahe. Tinaka' kase 20 años antes de u guaha lalagse' na kinalamten ekonomia guine.

where one hands over one's credit card for automatic deductions) but liaisons, even when they start from shared passion, grow cold on its journey to the waterfront at compassion station.

My Ch-English class sings to Vandelis' Chariot of Fire: “Zhongguo in transition, the old falls apart; we have a new vision, create a new heart. A new world is crushing the one that we knew, our minds barely touching the change rushing through.”

James Dobson's defense of the family and marriage notwithstanding, “love” is getting a makeover. We sense, we feel, we think, and we do, are the parameters in linguistic consciousness, and the same hold true with life. The wiener is important and so is the lotus flower, but one needs to build a circle big enough to contain, sustain and maintain the paradoxes of relationships, emotionally, intellectually, and behaviorally, to stand firm in the vortex of the swirling contradictions and remain calm in the balance of the yin-yang (aka, Taiji) at the pivot point of human consciousness and existence.

As Hefner at 85 bravely testifies: live and learn. Wonder what would happen if we abandoned the Penguin suits and lace gowns, champagne on the H2 limo promos, and took the Sa-ipan wind as the Pacific breeze of eros, invite the world to come “put a plumeria in your hair,” don a French Connection UK T-shirt and shorts, and get the island drums beating? Better than a family outing to the casino!

May June burst out all over our lives! Again!

Letters to the Editor

Short history lesson

I send this letter in reply to Mr Garry Evilsizer. You Mr. Evilsizer are mistaken and lacking full details (education) about the history of the CNMI. You were 300 years in slavery to the Spanish who controlled you using the church to control your people. After the Spanish-American war the Germans were given authority to administer control of the islands. When Germany was losing World War I, all of their military was called home. Your islands were left with no one to protect them!

Japan was never authorized to exercise control of the islands—they just moved in and took over—making people slaves once again. After they had taken control of all of the Pacific islands and China—they made the attack on Pearl Harbor—starting World War II. As most people know America ended World War II by dropping atom bombs on Nagasaki and Hiroshima which were the cities where Japan had all of its war materials factories. When the factories were destroyed Japan could not continue the fight and the war ended. Enough history for now.

America did not colonize the CNMI. The chosen leaders of the Chamorros negotiated the agreement that made the CNMI a commonwealth. The people of the CNMI voted to approve their new government. The people of Puerto Rico did the same thing and they too became a commonwealth. They have the same rights and restrictions as the CNMI. Hawaii and Alaska chose to become states and as a result they have the same rights as all other US states. Cuba and other islands of the Pacific chose other forms of government.

Before you sink your boat—better look around—there are others who would love to take over the CNMI again! Remember—Cuba lost its first government when the communists took over!

Franklin Keiper

Mayer, Arizona

Little piece of heaven

This is to let you know that I was on Saipan from 1952 to 1955 as a teenager. I have never forgot the beauty of the island and the people I met there. I still dream of returning there. Saipan to me was my little piece of heaven. Than you for giving me such great dreams that still live with me.

Richard Haselden

Sumter, South Carolina

THE CNMI

From Page 10

most single key to opening the door to a sustainable economic prosperity and a life of fulfillment.

In the midst of the bombings of England, Winston Churchill was asked when would England give up, he replied: “Never give up! Never give up! Never! Never! Never! Never!” How about us? Are we giving up?

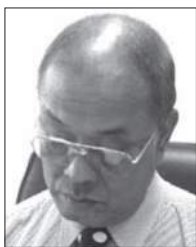
Please think about some of the ideas mentioned above. Add yours and discuss them with friends. Until then, have a great day!

Proteksion Dueñun Tanu'

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



Guaha fumaisenyu' kau ti hu lie' i proteksion gi papa' Attikulu Dose gi probision konstitusion para famaguon iya Marianas? Sin ta atisa mañan impetu, maila ta atan hafa ilelegña este na probision taimanu 'nai matuge' pagu.

I Attikulu Dose ha chule mediu gi propiadatmu ya gi mismu sakudida chinema' hau uttimu disposision gi tano'mu.

Kau propiu i para un' masañgane esta' i uttimon linala'mu na ti kapas hau dumisponi tano'mu ayu mina' mauleg un' sustene i Attikulu Dose? Na ti hagu ni dueñon tanu' mas kapas dumisponi tano'mu?

Hafa na proteksion guaha para i famaguonta 'nai esta ha' guaha ti man-kualifikau man-gai tanu pot esta menus ke 25 pot sientu haga' niha Chamorro 'sino Karolinas?

Haf' taimanu na mana' kualifikau i tai haga' natibu ya i prefektu gai haga' madiskualifika? Na ti i proteksion debi u fofona' i prefektu gai haga' finenina guine na asunto?

Kau dinanche i para ta displanta futuron famaguonta pot lache kinemprendetta hafa sustansiaña i Attikulu Dose? Pasensiaye ya unna' ma'agim hau tumaitai hafa ilelegña i presente na areglamiento gi papa' Attikulu Dose.

■ ■ ■






Mattu gi sumen taya' nina' siñan pottanmonedan familia na esta ni para ta tagam i finatton nuebu na haane kulan mohan un' dañkulu na estotbu.

Ni primuhu talayeru ti ha atanyu' 'nai hu upus. Dispues de ha rikohe talayaña, umahnanau para i kareta ya ha yotte halom gi santatte dispues 'nai ha kaikaigüe' para i gima. Hu faisen haf' na tiha pula'

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 79°	▲ 88° ▼ 79°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 81
Palau	Rain	▲ 84 ▼ 77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Rain	▲ 82 ▼ 76
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▼ 75
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 77

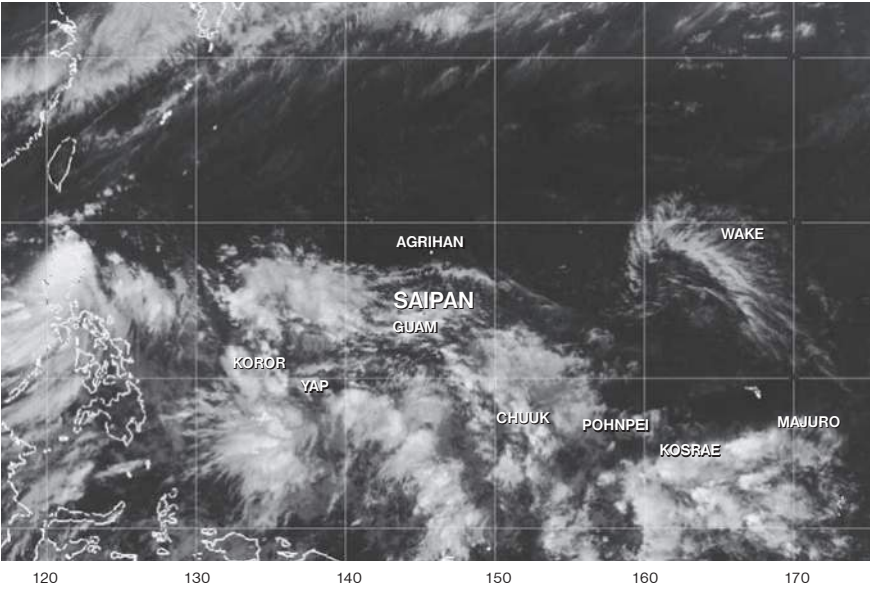
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 55
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 93 ▼ 70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 90 ▼ 82
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 83 ▼ 74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 69 ▼ 60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 52 ▼ 45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 78
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 80 ▼ 66
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲ 81 ▼ 71
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 57
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 75 ▼ 68
Rome	Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 64
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 54
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 68 ▼ 57
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲ 80 ▼ 68
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 81 ▼ 69
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 71

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
5:12 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet	
9:44 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet	
5:01 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	
11:59 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging trade winds are coupling with divergent upper-level winds to trigger scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms west of the Marianas between 13N and 18N from 132E to 141E. Widely scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found farther southeast over the southern Marianas within 135 miles of a line from 14N144E to 10N153E. A monsoon trough extends southeastward from the Northern Philippines across 14N130E through a low-level circulation centered south of Yap at 8N138E to end at EQ150E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near the trough and circulation over the Republic of Palau within 180 miles of a line from 12N133E to 2N137E and also southeast of Yap within 190 miles of a line from 9N143E to EQ148E. Converging winds near the southeastern end of the monsoon trough are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Chuuk between the equator and 9N from 148E to 157E. A trade-wind disturbance is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over southern Kosrae waters and Majuro south of a line from 4N158E to 8N172E to 3N175E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Tuesday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:19 PM	9:33 AM
Tuesday	10:56 PM	10:23 AM
Wednesday	11:32 PM	11:10 AM
Thursday		11:57 AM
Friday	12:07 AM	12:43 PM

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A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
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Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- **SAMUT SARI**
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRAVELOGUE**
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU590	4:30am	7:20am	2, 6	MU589	8:50pm	3:30am+1	1, 5
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 5	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 4	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09313/933	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
				C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
5K168	3:25pm	6:35pm	1, 4, 6				via ICN
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	5K169	9:55am	5:00pm	2, 5, 7
				OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
				OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana				ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)			

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 300	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NMC offers NCLEX preparatory class

The CNMI Area Health Education Center (AHEC), through the Northern Marianas College Community Development Institute (CDI), is sponsoring a preparatory class for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for Registered Nurses.

To become a licensed registered nurse, candidates in the CNMI and in the U.S. must first pass the NCLEX. To qualify to

register for this course, participants must have at least an Associate's Degree in Nursing.

CNMI AHEC will subsidize this review course for those individuals who are CNMI Legal Residents (i.e. United States citizens, U.S. Green Card holders, and I.R.s who are dependents of or married to U.S. citizens). Due to limited funding, subsidy is based on first-come-first-serve basis.

This NCLEX preparatory course will run from June 27 to Aug. 22, 2011 at the NMC As Terlaje campus (room will be announced later). The schedule for the course is 5:30pm to 8pm on Mondays and Wednesdays, and 9am to 11am on Saturdays for a total of 60 hours. The fee for this course is \$150.

CDI courses are designed to improve individual knowl-

edge and skills. If requested, certificates of completion may be awarded to each registered participant who completes all course requirements. CDI also provides customized trainings and courses upon request from interested individuals.

To register for this course, applicants must register by Fri-

day, June 24, 2011, and submit a copy of their highest nursing degree and a valid I.D. (U.S. passport, driver's license, or birth certificate for verification upon registration). Full payment of the course fee is required before or upon registration and for admission. No refunds will be allowed after the first day classes are offered.

In addition, NMC courses are required to have a minimum number of individuals enrolled

in order to run. NMC reserves the right to cancel or reschedule such a course if this enrollment requirement is not met.

For more information or to register for this course, visit the NMC Community Development Institute office at the NMC As Terlaje campus in Building P. Those interested may also call CDI at 234-5498 ext. 1010, 1014, 1019 or 1030, or email Orrin Pharmin at orrinp@nmc-net.edu. (NMC)

ToC proceeds at work in Dandan, Susupe, Chalan Piao

For the past 15 years, over 200 golfers have competed for exciting cash and prizes and a chance to be named the Marianas best golfer. While the trophies change hands yearly, there is always one winner—the Saipan Beautification Fund. At a time where budgets are tight and Saipan needs to maintain and improve our tourism assets, this fund is vital in order to keep our island beautiful.

This year, over \$16,000 in TOC proceeds were used to improve the median strips in Dandan between the Shell Dandan gas station and San Vicente church, in Susupe on the road between Saipan World Resort and Joeten Shopping Center, as well as the median

strip near the Mobil gas station in Chalan Piao.

"TOC is proud of the work we have done in maintaining the beautiful island atmosphere that has made Saipan popular with tourists," said Ben Babauta, tournament director for TOC. "The Saipan Beautification Fund proceeds make these projects that would not otherwise have funding, possible. We are proud to work with MVA and our other government partners to continue to make a positive difference."

The Tournament of Champions is an annual tournament which started in 1996 with proceeds going into the Saipan Beautification Fund. The funds are used to promote our visitor in-

dustry by enhancing our destination landscaping and other highly visible destination features. Proceeds have recently been used for the continued maintenance of traffic medians from Chalan Piao to Marpi and the Port to Park Pathway. In the past, the fund has been used for the revitalization of the Garapan special district, the enhanced beautification of the Paseo de Marianas and other beautification projects.

This year's tournament is on Aug. 6 and 7. For more information, or to register to play, please visit the TOC website at www.tocsaipan.com. If you are interested in being a sponsor for this worthwhile event, contact Jim Arenovski at 287-7037. (ToC)

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Over \$16,000 in Tournament of Champions proceeds were used to improve the median strips in Dandan (right) between the Shell Dandan gas station and San Vicente church, in Susupe (below) on the road between Saipan World Resort and Joeten Shopping Center, as well as the median strip near the Mobil gas station in Chalan Piao (below right).



CONGRATULATIONS

Eleven-year-old Angelico Luis G. Gagui was recently promoted to junior high school during Garapan Elementary School's promotional rites at Hollywood Theatres Thursday. Angelo, son of Dandy and Ruby Gagui, was bestowed the school's president's award for educational excellence. He is also a consistent "A" honor roll student from K-6th grade, an excellent piano student of Keynotes School of Music, and a member of Saipan Music and Dance Studio's Saipan KIDz Legacy group.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



BEST DAD

Happy Father's Day to the best dad, Stanley Songao Santos. Even if we're minutes away we still think of you. We love you and hope you enjoy your Father's Day. Greetings from Craig and Martinie Calvo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Who wants to be Saipan's Next Top Chef?

Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation, in conjunction with Pacific Islands Club, is looking for chefs to compete in Saipan's first friendly fundraiser competition entitled Saipan's Next Top Chef.

Do you love cooking? Do you prepare some of the island's tastiest meals known to man? Do you have a special dish you think want to reveal

to everyone far and wide? If you think you can cook, the Saipan's Next Top Chef is the competition for you!

This event will take place at PIC on July 16. The Top 3 chefs will take home grand prize, second, and third place prizes. The competition will showcase local foods and serve as a fundraiser for Empty Vessel Ministry Foun-

dation. If you're interested in competing, please contact the following organizers, for more information: Vicky Benavente (viclbenavente@gmail.com) or 237-5103; Rose Smith (roseevm@yahoo.com) or 483-0162; and Shelli Neal (shellineal@gmail.com).

Tickets sales for this event will begin soon so be on the lookout for them! (PR)

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 11-01

United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands

DOCKET CLERK

Location: GARAPAN, SAIPAN, MP PERMANENT FULL-TIME
Grade CL-24 \$32,936 per annum, plus 17.23% COLA
(With promotion potential to CL-26, \$40,058 to \$65,142 plus COLA)

OPEN: June 15, 2011 CLOSING DATE: June 22, 2011

The Court reserves the right to withdraw or extend the closing date for this position.

Selected applicant must be available to begin employment on July 1, 2011.

Position Overview:

This position is located in the Clerk's Office of the U.S. District Court, in Saipan. The incumbent receives and reviews documents for conformity with federal and local rules, including electronic case filing from Internet users, and assists with case management. The incumbent also acts as cashier, assists with courtroom operations, and assists with shelving of law library materials. Information is at: <http://www.nmid.uscourts.gov>

Minimum Qualifications:

Applicants must be a high school graduate or equivalent and must have two years general experience and one year specialized experience, which has provided a good understanding of office clerical practices and knowledge of legal procedure and or legal pleading. Applicants must also have excellent office computing skills.

Educational Substitutes:

Education above high school level in accredited institutions may be substituted for the general experience on the basis of one academic year equals nine months of general experience.

Desirable Qualifications:

An Associate (AA or AS) college degree is desirable. Applicants should possess the ability to exercise mature judgment and the ability to communicate effectively in writing and orally. Strong legal office and/or administrative work experience is desirable.

Other Requirements:

Applicants are required to be U.S. citizens or U.S. Permanent Residents who are actively seeking U.S. citizenship. The selected candidate will be subject to a background check as a condition of employment. All appointments subject to mandatory electronic funds transfer (Direct Deposit) for payment of net pay. Applicants selected for interviews must travel or relocate at their own expense. The incumbent is subject to a six (6) month probationary period.

Application Procedure:

Each applicant is required to submit a cover letter; plus an AO-78 application form, and a five-year salary history. Optional resume may be included with AO-78 application. AO-78 forms are on the Internet at: <http://www.nmid.uscourts.gov>, or may be picked up at the U.S. District Court. Submit applications by hand delivery, or by fax or email with originals mailed and postmarked by closing date, to:

**Clerk of Court
United States District Court
for the Northern Mariana Islands
2nd Floor, Horiguchi Building, Garapan
P.O. Box 500687, Saipan MP 96950**

(Fax 670-236-2910 galo_perez@nmid.uscourts.gov)
The U.S. District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Business

United recovering from canceled, delayed flights

CHICAGO (AP)—A five-hour computer outage that virtually shut down United Airlines Friday night and early Saturday is a stark reminder of how dependent airlines have become on technology.

Passengers saw their flight information vanish from airport screens, and thousands were stranded as United canceled 36 flights and delayed 100 worldwide.

The airline still had no explanation Saturday afternoon for the outage. But things could have been much worse.

A blizzard in the Northeast wiped out more than 10,000 flights over three days in December, a mid-January storm led airlines to cancel nearly 9,000 flights.

Friday's shutdown occurred late enough in the day that many of the canceled flights were the last planes out for the day, said Henry Hartevelde, an airline analyst with Forrester



^{AP}
In this photo taken June 17, 2011, shows stranded United Airlines passenger Therell Churchill waiting at the United Airlines ticket counter at Denver International Airport Friday, June 17, 2011, in Denver.

strom, 57, and Emily Schaefer, 42, who were trying to get home from Cancun, Mexico, to Spirit Lake, Iowa, said their delays started with a computer problem at midday Friday in Mexico.

"We're way past 24 hours now," Nordstrom said about noon Saturday before she boarded a rebooked flight from Chicago O'Hare International Airport to Detroit for a connection to Sioux Falls. She expected to get home about midnight but hoped her travel insurance would offer some compensation.

United spokesman Charles Hobart said late Saturday afternoon that the airline didn't expect to cancel any more flights this weekend due to the computer problems, though delays might continue.

Business travelers are usu-

ally hurt less by such disruptions than people flying for vacation or personal reasons because airlines first help passengers with elite status in frequent flier programs and those who bought more-expensive, unrestricted tickets.

Jon Ryan, who had planned to fly nonstop from San Francisco to London on business Friday evening, was rebooked on partner airline Air Canada after two hours on the phone. His new itinerary: San Francisco to Toronto to Halifax to London.

"The poor, poor ticket agents were just bewildered and sitting behind the counter. Everybody was just staring and didn't know what to do," Ryan said. "The line grew and grew and then people went from sitting down to lying down."

On a typical day, United, a subsidiary of United Continental Holdings Inc., cancels 15 to 30 flights for reasons ranging from fog to maintenance problems or staffing shortages. Those are understandable. Passengers and others said a computer glitch should not have grounded the airline.

Greek debt crisis: Juncker warns of contagion

BERLIN (AP)—Contagion from the Greek debt crisis could spread to at least five other European countries—including Belgium or even Italy—if it is not cautiously managed, the head of the eurozone group warned Saturday.

Jean-Claude Juncker told the German daily Sueddeutsche Zeitung that demanding that private creditors contribute to the next Greek bailout package could be considered a "default" by ratings agencies - and that would have extreme consequences for Europe as a whole.

Juncker, the prime minister of Luxembourg who also chairs the 17 eurozone finance ministers, was quoted as saying that a Greek bankruptcy "could prove contagious for Portugal and Ireland, and then also for Belgium and Italy because of their high debt burden, even before Spain."

"We are playing with the fire," he told the paper.

His comments came a day after Moody's warned it may reduce Italy's Aa2 credit rating over concerns about the country's ability to increase growth and reduce its public debt, one of the highest in Europe. The warning followed a similar move by Standard and Poor's, which cut its ratings outlook for Italy's debt from stable to negative.

On Friday, German Chancellor Angela Merkel softened her government's insistence on having private creditors share part of the Greek burden following a meeting with French President Nicolas Sar-

kozy in Berlin, with both leaders agreeing that the participation should be "voluntary."

Ratings agencies as well as the European Central Bank have warned that forcing bond holders to accept losses or give Greece extra years to repay its debt would likely be considered a partial default by Greece that could spread panic on financial markets.

Juncker stressed that a debt restructuring would ravage Greek banks, which hold a large amount of their country's debt - some euro80 billion (\$114 billion)—ultimately requiring yet another bailout for the banks.

"Everything is becoming yet more expensive because we are including private creditors due to domestic political considerations in Germany,"

Research. On a Monday morning, the results could have been catastrophic.

"It happened as a lot of the airline was going to sleep for the night," Hartevelde said.

That doesn't mean affected travelers were happy.

"I'm just amazed at how catastrophic the failure was," said Jason Huggins, 35, who was trying to fly home to Chicago

after a week working at his software company's San Francisco headquarters. "All the computer screens were blank, just showing the United logo."

Huggins paid \$1,200 to book one of the last three seats left on an American Airlines flight home.

Social workers Penny Nord-

strom, 57, and Emily Schaefer, 42, who were trying to get home from Cancun, Mexico, to Spirit Lake, Iowa, said their delays started with a computer problem at midday Friday in Mexico.

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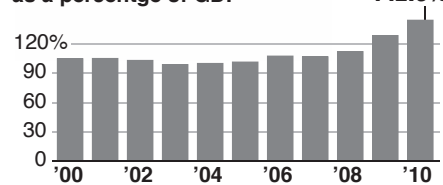


Mounting money woes

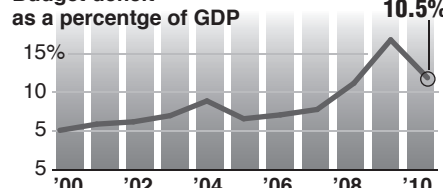
Aid from the EU and International Monetary Fund will likely help Greece in the short run, but political turmoil is stoking fears that the nation could eventually default on its debts.

Deeper and deeper hole

Government debt as a percentage of GDP



Budget deficit as a percentage of GDP



Source: Eurostat, BBC
Graphic: Pat Carr

Bailout troubles

May 2010 Greece agrees to make 30 billion euros (\$42 billion) in budget cuts over three years in return for EU, IMF aid

February 2011 EU, IMF tell Greece to make additional cuts

April Budget deficit revised to 10.5%, worse than previously estimated

May Starts privatizing but cannot promise it will stay solvent for 12 months; IMF warns it may not release more funds

June 29 Deadline for Greece to agree to new austerity package

© 2011 MCT

kozy in Berlin, with both leaders agreeing that the participation should be "voluntary."

Ratings agencies as well as the European Central Bank have warned that forcing bond holders to accept losses or give Greece extra years to repay its debt would likely be considered a partial default by Greece that could spread panic on financial markets.

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"Everything is becoming yet more expensive because we are including private creditors due to domestic political considerations in Germany,"

Sueddeutsche Zeitung quoted him as saying.

Merkel's parliamentary majority recently agreed to the latest round of financial assistance for Greece while insisting that private creditors share any potential losses. Merkel, the leader of Europe's biggest economy, restated that position Saturday.

"We again have to show solidarity and also have to include private creditors," Merkel told fellow members of her conservative party in Berlin.

European officials will hold talks with the private sector—mostly banks, insurance companies and pension funds—and they will make a "substantial contribution" to a second bailout for Greece, Merkel said, according to the news agency DAPD.

Water cleanup system shut down at Japan nuke plant

TOKYO (AP)—A system to clean massive amounts of contaminated water at the site of Japan's nuclear disaster was shut down Saturday, just hours after it began full operations, because a component filled with radioactivity much more quickly than expected.

Tokyo Electric Power Co., which operates the tsunami-hit Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant, is investigating the cause and isn't sure when it will restart the system, company spokesman Junichi Matsumoto said.

Fresh water is being pumped in to cool damaged reactor cores, and is getting contaminated in the process. Some 105,000 tons of highly radioactive water have pooled across the plant, and could overflow within a couple of weeks if action is not taken.

In earlier tests, the water treatment system reduced cesium levels in the water to about one-10,000th of their original levels. The system began full

operations Friday night after a series of problems involving leaks and valve flaws.

The system was suspended in early Saturday when workers detected a sharp radiation increase in the system's cesium-absorbing component, Matsumoto said. Radioactivity in one of 24 cartridges, which was expected to last for a few weeks, had already reached its limit within five hours, he said.

Japan's March 11 earthquake and tsunami knocked out power to the nuclear plant, incapacitating its crucial cooling systems and causing three reactor cores to melt. TEPCO aims to bring the reactors to a stable cold shutdown state by early January.

The water treatment system is to be eventually connected to a cooling system so the treated water can be reused. But treating the water will create an additional headache—tons of highly radioactive sludge will require a separate long-term

storage space.

The Fukushima crisis shattered Japan's confidence in the safety of nuclear energy and prompted anti-nuclear sentiment. But there are also concerns that Japan will face a serious summertime power crunch unless more of its reactors get back on line.

Of Japan's 54 nuclear reactors, more than 30—including six at Fukushima Dai-ichi and several others that stopped due to the quake—are out of operation.

Economy and Industry Minister Banri Kaieda said Saturday that the rest of the nuclear plants in Japan are safe and their reactors should resume operations as soon as their ongoing regular checks are completed. He said nationwide inspections this week have found that Japanese nuclear power plants are now prepared for accidents as severe as the one that crippled Fukushima Dai-ichi.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

FTC lets Microsoft proceed with purchase of Skype

The Federal Trade Commission is letting software giant Microsoft Corp. proceed with its largest deal ever, an \$8.5 billion bid for web chat and call service Skype. The FTC announced Friday that it had finished its review of the buyout so it can proceed if the Department of Justice also approves. Both agencies must review any deal worth more than \$65.2 million, according to the FTC's website. Microsoft already has a Skype-like service called Windows Live. But Skype lets users of different kinds of computers and phones chat directly. The deal could let Microsoft sell more digital advertising and offer more popular business conferencing tools. (AP)

AARP slammed for not fighting Social Security cuts

WASHINGTON (AP)—AARP, the powerful lobby for older Americans, was hammered Friday by fellow activists for refusing to oppose any and all cuts to Social Security benefits, a position the group says it has long held as a way to extend the life of the massive retirement and disability program. The group, which has 37 million Americans as members, adamantly opposes cutting Social Security benefits to help reduce the federal budget deficit, said David Certner, the organization's director of legislative policy. But for years AARP has acknowledged that cuts to future benefits may be necessary to improve the program's finances, he said.

Nation

Some evacuees in AZ, NM return home from wildfires

PHOENIX (AP)—Some residents evacuated because of wildfires in Arizona and New Mexico were allowed to return to their homes Saturday as firefighters battled strong winds and hot weather to try to keep more houses, dry forests and stretches of high desert from being consumed by the flames.

With summer rains still weeks away, forecasters said fire crews across the Southwest would likely have little relief from the hot, windy weather that has dogged them for days. More high-wind warnings and fire weather watches were on tap for many areas through the weekend.

In eastern Arizona along the New Mexico border, residents of Alpine were allowed to return to their homes Saturday morning after being forced out for more than two weeks, but Greer residents still remained evacuated by the largest wildfire in Arizona's history.



By late afternoon, authorities were evacuating the small town of Luna, N.M., as a precaution as strong easterly winds pushed the Wallow fire over the New Mexico border.

New Mexico State Forestry spokesman Dan Ware said crews were working to move the fire around Luna, where about 200 people live. A shelter for evacuees was being set up at

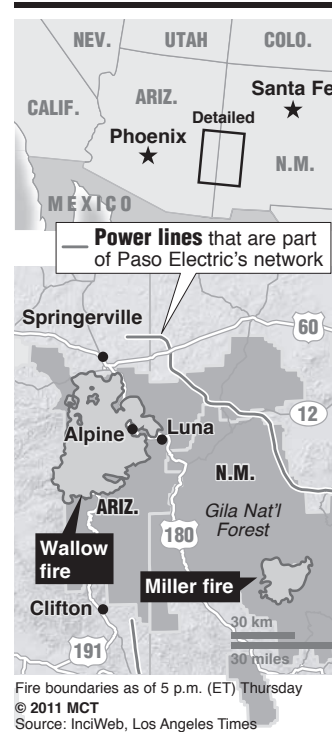
a high school in Reserve, N.M.

The Wallow fire has consumed about 782 square miles, a little more than 500,000 acres, and more than 4,500 firefighters were trying to stop its advance. The blaze this week exceeded a 2002 fire that burned 732 square miles and destroyed 491 buildings. Despite its size, the latest fire has destroyed just 32 homes and four rental cabins.

Containment rose to 38 percent Friday night, but more winds were predicted through the weekend with gusts of up to 60 mph possible.

U.S. Sen. Jon Kyl, who owns a home in Greer, toured the fire area Saturday along with Sen. John McCain and Arizona congress-

AP
Fire crews from Rio Rico and Helmet Peak mop up hot spots in a storage trailer after the Monument Fire burned through the area overnight Sierra Vista, Ariz., on Friday June 17, 2011.



men Jeff Flake and Paul Gosar.

"Seeing a terrible fire like this is always a wakeup call," Flake, a Republican who represents Arizona's 6th district, said in a statement. "Our forest health policies need an overhaul. ... In the short term, we need to address regulations that hamper timber salvage in the burnt areas. In the long term, we need to enter into public-private partnerships in or-

A soggy summer awaits along the Missouri River

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—It isn't so much the amount of water churning its way down the Missouri River that has people along the nation's longest waterway on edge. It's how long all that water will stick around.

The annual "spring rise" on the Missouri will last deep into this soggy summer, as a torrent of early season rains and winter snowpack flows through wide-open gates of South Dakota's Gavins Point Dam upriver and toward the confluence with the Mississippi River. The Missouri might start to crest soon, but it won't start to fall until August or later.

That constant pressure on the network of levees that protect farmland, roads, small towns and big cities from a river running well outside its banks is what worries folks downriver

most as the high water heads south toward Kansas City and east toward St. Louis.

"The length of the flood will test levees like they've never been tested before," Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon said. "You're going to see levees which in essence may be tall enough, but not strong enough."

That isn't the only worry as the summer of 2011 shapes up as the worst since 1993, when a Missouri River swollen by weeks of rain over the north-central United States led to flooding that killed 32 people, damaged an estimated 100,000 homes and caused \$15 billion in damage.

There's also the prospect of flooded fields in five states that will keep farmers from planting some crops and harvesting others. Highways covered with

river water will be as much a headache for drivers as the cash-strapped state and counties that must pay to fix them. Barge operators—and those who rely on them—face big losses if the river remains closed to navigation.

And then there is the greatest unknown in a river valley with no more room for any more water.

"One of my biggest concerns is simply rain," Nixon said. "I know that's no big public policy pronouncement, but that's a big worry."

The Missouri was already running higher than normal last fall, when rains upriver combined with a heavy winter snow to fill the reservoirs in South Dakota and Montana and force the record-setting releases from dams the Army Corps of Engineers uses in most years to control the river's flow.

Texas Gov. Perry not a 2012 candidate just yet

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—A candidate in waiting, Texas Gov. Rick Perry is elbowing the Republicans already in the 2012 presidential race as he courts party activists, operatives and donors still shopping for someone to back against President Barack Obama.

His appearance Saturday at the Republican Leadership Conference offered yet another tantalizing hint that he's ready to upend a crowded field of candidates who have worked months to amass name recognition, organization and campaign cash. The longest serving governor of his state drew much interest despite little effort so far to put together a traditional campaign.

"I stand before you today as a disciplined conservative Texan, a committed Republican and a proud American, united with you to restoring our nation and revive the American dream," Perry said during an address that repeatedly drew the crowd to its feet.

He sounded every bit a candidate.

"Our shared conservative values, our belief in the individual is the great hope of our nation," he said.

Perry has long insisted he



AP
Texas Governor Rick Perry speaks at the Lincoln Dinner, an annual fundraising event for the New York GOP, Tuesday, June 14, 2011 in New York.

wouldn't run. But in recent weeks, he has softened his refusals and his advisers have started laying the groundwork for a campaign in Iowa. They characterize it as a coin-toss whether he enters the field in the coming weeks. The coyote-shooting, tough-talking ex-Democrat has never lost an election. As Republicans try to determine the strongest challenger to Obama, the party establishment and tea partiers don't seem satisfied with their current options.

Perry's message to them: say what you think.

der to improve the health of these forests by thinning them."

Meanwhile, the remaining evacuations from a fire burning on both sides of the New Mexico-Colorado border were lifted Saturday morning for residents of Pine Valley Estates, Sugarite Canyon and Yankee Canyon just outside of Raton, N.M.

Containment on the nearly 28,000-acre Track Fire jumped to 45 percent. Fire officials said existing fire lines were holding despite strong winds in the area.

Investigators from New Mexico State Forestry and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway said Saturday that fire apparently was started June 12 by engine exhaust from an all-terrain vehicle.

They said the rider was trespassing onto land owned by BNSF railway through access from nearby private property. The Colfax County Sheriff's Department was seeking information on the person or persons riding or operating ATVs near the origin of the fire.

In southern Arizona, a wildfire south of Sierra Vista remained 15 percent contained at about 21,000 acres, or nearly 33 square miles. Up to 50 homes already have been destroyed by the Monument fire and about 12,000 residents remain evacuated as firefighters continue slurry drops to keep the fire from pushing down a canyon and toward the city.

"Our party cannot be all things to all people. It can't be. Our loudest opponents on the left are never going to like us so let's stop trying to curry favor with them," Perry said. "Let's stand up and speak with pride about our morals and our values." The Republican presidential field remains murky.

U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota, who used Monday's debate in New Hampshire to enter the race, raised the Minneapolis crowd to its feet Saturday at the other end of the Mississippi, referring to herself as "a very different kind of leader."

It's a pitch similar to that of Herman Cain, a former pizza executive and tea party favorite who has never served in public office. U.S. Rep. Ron Paul of Texas, a favorite among the libertarian wing of the party, won the New Orleans straw poll after a rousing speech railing against Washington and the Federal Reserve.

All are trying to spark interest and capture the imagination of their party's most active members. In speeches tailored for the party's base, they hit similar messages about making Obama a one-term president, repealing his health care overhaul and lowering taxes.

ACROSS THE NATION

4 dead in small plane crash in suburb north of NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—A small plane crashed about a mile from a suburban airport on Saturday, bursting into flames and killing all four people on board. The plane crashed shortly after departure from Westchester County Airport in White Plains, north of New York City, authorities said. The Cessna 210 took off from the airport shortly after 1 p.m., bound for Montauk, about 100 miles east, Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman Holly Baker said.

Video shows saggy pants dispute aboard plane in SF

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A University of New Mexico football player who was arrested after wearing saggy pants on a plane at the San Francisco airport insists in a video showing part of his exchange with authorities that his pants were up and he had done nothing wrong. The San Francisco Chronicle obtained the video and a link to it was on the newspaper's website Saturday. "My pants are up sir," a seated

DeShon Marman tells the captain, who along with someone who appears to be a San Francisco police officer, is standing near his seat on the plane. "I'm not doing anything. I paid my fees, and I'm ready to go."

2 punished after disabled gays told to leave pool

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—An employee at a public swimming pool in eastern Kentucky was suspended for a week without pay after telling two disabled gay men to leave, city of Hazard officials said Saturday. The suspended city employee Kim Haynes told investigators that the two men were engaged in an excessive display of affection June 10, and that he would have told any other couple to leave had he seen similar behavior. Haynes, however, also acknowledged he said "We don't tolerate that kind of activity around here" and cited the Bible in an argument with Laura Quillen, a member of the social service group Mending Hearts, which was overseeing the group. Quillen told investigators the men did nothing inappropriate.

Asia

PH's Aquino halts some foreign-funded work

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Benigno Aquino III is canceling or re-considering foreign-funded infrastructure projects worth \$2 billion, saying that although his country badly needs improvements, the contracts are over-priced and technically deficient.

He told The Associated Press in an interview Friday that he has canceled a Belgian-funded lake dredging project, and ordered a restudy of a Chinese-financed rail line and renegotiation of a French-funded port work.

Aquino has been reviewing infrastructure contracts signed under his predecessor, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, whose administration has been accused of corruption. He did not accuse anyone involved in the three projects of corruption but said dredging in particular “is one of the most notorious practices for those who do corrupt practices ... so I have a tendency to be allergic to such projects.”

Aquino canceled the 18.7 billion peso (\$430 million) Belgian project to dredge Laguna Lake, the country's largest fresh water lake, on the southern edge of Manila.

He said the project was supposed to increase the lake's water-holding capacity to ease



Philippine President Benigno Aquino III answers a question during an interview with The Associated Press at Malacanang Palace in Manila, Philippines, Friday June 17, 2011.

flooding and provide potable water to the sprawling metropolis, but that the plan was to simply move 424 million cubic feet (12 million cubic meters) of silt from one portion of the lake and dump it on another portion over three years.

“That’s where it fell through,” he said.

He said it would be better to spend that money for his government’s 21 billion peso (\$483 million) conditional cash transfer program to give financial as-

sistance to the poorest 2.3 million Filipino families.

Aquino’s year-old administration is fighting graft while wooing foreign investors to partner with his government to boost the economy and fulfill his promise of easing poverty.

“We thank the foreign governments that have been assisting us,” he said. “We think it is incumbent upon us to be responsible with their kindness in ensuring that these projects are worthwhile.”

Vietnamese protest China amid rising tensions

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—Hundreds of Vietnamese launched a third week of protests against China on Sunday amid escalating tensions in disputed waters of the South China Sea, where both countries recently conducted live-fire military drills.

About 300 people gathered near the Chinese Embassy in the capital, Hanoi, and marched through the streets, yelling “Down with China!” and demanding that their powerful northern neighbor stay out of Vietnam’s territory. Crowds also gathered in southern Ho Chi Minh City.

“We will fight for our country if the nation needs us,” said student Nguyen Manh Ha, 20. “Not only me, but all Vietnamese people will die to protect

our territory.”

Protests are extremely rare in Vietnam and are typically quashed quickly by security forces, but Hanoi has allowed the demonstrations to go on for the past three Sundays amid tight security. At one point, the crowd, waving Vietnamese flags, stopped at a department store and shouted “Boycott Chinese products!”

“I’m here today to protect my country from an invading China,” said Nguyen Long, 82, who fought in a short, bloody land border war with China in 1979. “I’m sure those in the embassy are listening to us shouting ‘Down with China!’”

Relations between the communist countries hit a low point after two incidents in the past

month involving clashes between Chinese and Vietnamese boats in the South China Sea.

Vietnam accuses Chinese vessels of hindering oil exploration surveys in an area 200 nautical miles off its central coast that it claims as its economic exclusive zone. China says Vietnam illegally entered its waters near the disputed Spratly islands and endangered Chinese fishermen.

The two sides have a long history of exchanging diplomatic jabs over maritime incidents, mainly involving areas around the believed resource-rich Spratly and Paracel islands, which are claimed all or in part by Vietnam, China and several other Asian countries. But the current spat has become much more hostile.

tomers and waitresses. Military officials reported that an 81 mm mortar was used in the blast but Tuzon says the damage was not extensive enough for such an explosive.

Taiwan president picks premier as VP running mate

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan’s president announced Sunday that his premier will be his vice presidential running mate in next year’s elections in an apparent attempt to counter criticism that he has failed on domestic issues while trying to bolster

ties with China. China-friendly President Ma Ying-jeou’s choice of Wu Den-yih appears to be a move to address critics’ charges that he is neglecting issues at home while courting Beijing and to win over voters in the pro-independence heartland in southern Taiwan, where Wu has extensive connections. Wu, 63, is widely deemed a quick-witted, experienced administrator of domestic affairs. Before becoming premier, he was a magistrate in his native central Taiwanese county of Nantou, then mayor of the southern city of Kaohsiung, and later a lawmaker.

World

Refugee crisis mushrooms as Syrian army attacks

BOYNUYOGUN REFUGEE CAMP, Turkey (AP)—Syrian troops backed by tanks and firing heavy machine guns swept into a village near the Turkish border Saturday, forcing more people displaced by the crackdown on anti-government protesters to flee across the frontier.

The Local Coordination Committees, a group that documents protests, said troops backed by six tanks and several armored personnel carriers entered Bdama in the morning. The village, about 12 miles (20 kilometers) from the Turkish border, had a bakery that was the sole source of bread for nearly 2,000 displaced people crowded near the border who had hoped not to have to flee to the Turkish tent-city sanctuary. The town was also supplying medicine and other foodstuffs to them.

Without that critical lifeline, some women and children were already crossing into Turkey Saturday afternoon.

The three-month uprising against President Bashar Assad’s rule has proved stunningly resilient despite a relentless crackdown by the military, pervasive security forces and pro-regime gunmen. Human rights activists say more than 1,400 Syrians have been killed and 10,000 detained as Assad tries to maintain his grip on power.

Along the border Saturday, those displaced near Bdama said they were running short of supplies.

“We still have some potatoes, rice and powdered milk but they will run out soon,” said Jamil Saeb, one of the Syrians who had so far decided to stay in Syria. “This is our first

day without bread.”

Saeb said there are children who are sick and there is no medicine. Others are picking apples for lack of other food.

“We are living in catastrophic conditions,” he said.

“We are besieged by the border fence from one side and the Syrian army from the other,” Saeb said by telephone. “We are expecting a humanitarian crisis within hours if Turkey does not send aid to us.”

The British Foreign office, meanwhile, urged Britons in Syria to leave the country “immediately.” In a statement posted on the website of the British Embassy in Syria, the Foreign Office said Britons should leave “now by commercial means while these are still operating.”

The statement said those who stay should understand it would be unlikely the British Embassy in Damascus could provide a normal consular service if there was a “further breakdown in law and order.”

Britain, France, Germany and Portugal will be sponsoring a draft resolution at the U.N. Security Council to condemn Syria.

The attack on Bdama occurred a day after Syrian forces swept into Maaret al-Numan, a town on the highway linking Damascus, the capital, with Syria’s largest city, Aleppo. Saturday’s assault on Bdama was about 25 miles (40 kilometers) to the west.

Also Saturday, the committees raised the death toll in Friday’s anti-government protests to 19.

Bdama is next to Jisr al-Shughour, a town that was spinning out of government

control before the military recaptured it last Sunday. Activists had reported fighting in Jisr al-Shughour between loyalist troops and defectors who refused to take part in a continuing crackdown on protesters seeking Assad’s ouster.

Saeb, the man on the border, said he fled Jisr al-Shughour shortly before the army took control. He declared he would rather die on the run or become an exile than face arrest and torture by members of Syria’s secret services.

“If the army advances here we will flee to Turkey,” Saeb said.

The fighting in the area, which started nearly two weeks ago, displaced thousands of people including some 10,100 who are sheltered in Turkish refugee camps. On Friday, U.N. envoy Angelina Jolie traveled to Turkey’s border with Syria to meet some of the thousands of Syrian refugees.

A Turkish villager near the border with Syria said hundreds of Syrians were crossing over Saturday afternoon, fleeing the army advance.

“We expect more people to cross overnight,” said the man, who would not give his name, fearing retribution.

Carol Batchelor, the representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Turkey, said coping with the flow of Syrians was challenging.

“We have offered our full support from the United Nations, from each of our agencies, for any support that might be needed. Turkey has said for the time being they are able to manage the situation, to cope with the circumstances,” she said.

Libya says NATO airstrike hits residential area

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—The Libyan government said civilians were killed Sunday in a NATO airstrike that hit a residential neighborhood in Tripoli, adding to charges that the alliance is striking nonmilitary targets.

Journalists based in the Libyan capital were taken by government officials to a neighborhood where it says the strike occurred shortly after at least one explosion rumbled through the city around 1 a.m. They were shown a destroyed building that appeared to have been partially under construction as rescue efforts were under way.

Government spokesman Moussa Ibrahim said the damage was caused by NATO rockets and bombs. He wasn’t immediately able to provide the number of casualties, but said there were no military facilities anywhere near the damaged building.

“There was intentional and deliberate targeting of the civilian houses,” said deputy

foreign minister Khaled Kaim during a visit to the site shortly after reporters arrived. “This is another sign of the brutality of the West.”

Journalists taken to a hospital after seeing the damaged building were shown at least four people said to be killed in the strike, including two young children.

It was not possible to independently verify the government’s account of what happened.

Officials increasingly have sought to highlight what they say are attacks on civilian targets by NATO warplanes by taking journalists to visit alleged bombing sites. Foreign journalists in Tripoli are not allowed to travel and report freely and are almost always shadowed by government minders.

On Friday, Prime Minister al-Baghdadi al-Mahmoudi accused NATO of a “new level of aggression” in recent days, and claimed that the military alliance intentionally targeted

civilian buildings, including a hotel and a university. He has called on the United Nations to take action to stop NATO’s daily bombing runs.

The most recent figures from Libya’s Health Ministry show 856 civilians have been killed in NATO airstrikes since they began in March. The figure could not be independently confirmed. Previous government-announced tolls from individual strikes have proven to be exaggerated.

NATO, which has a mandate to protect Libyan civilians, has been ramping up the pressure on Moammar Gadhafi’s regime as a four-month uprising devolved into a civil war. It rejects allegations it targets civilians.

“We are conducting operations with utmost care and precision to avoid civilian casualties. Civilian casualties figures mentioned by the Libyan regime are pure propaganda,” NATO spokeswoman Oana Lungescu said Saturday.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Blast wounds 5 in Philippine bar amid terror fears

TACURONG, Philippines (AP)—Police say an explosion wounded five women and slightly damaged a karaoke bar in a southern Philippine city amid fresh concerns about possible terrorist attacks in the country. Police Superintendent Gilberto Tuzon says investigators are determining whether the blast late Saturday in Tacurong city in Sultan Kudarat province arose from a local feud or was an act of terrorism. Tuzon said Sunday that the victims included cus-

Health & Fitness

Weighing cancer risks, from cellphones to coffee

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP MEDICAL WRITER

You're sitting in a freshly dry-walled house, drinking coffee from a plastic foam cup and talking on a cellphone. Which of these is most likely to be a cancer risk?

It might be the sitting, especially if you do that a lot.

Despite all the recent news about possible cancer risks from cellphones, coffee, styrene, and formaldehyde in building materials, most of us probably face little if any danger from these things with ordinary use, health experts say. Inactivity and obesity may pose a greater cancer risk than chemicals for some people.

"We are being bombarded" with messages about the dangers posed by common things in our lives, yet most exposures "are not at a level that are going to cause cancer," said Dr. Len Lichtenfeld, the American Cancer Society's deputy chief medical officer.

Linda Birnbaum agrees. She is a toxicologist who heads the government agency that just declared styrene, an ingredient in fiberglass boats and Styrofoam, a likely cancer risk.

"Let me put your mind at ease right away about Styrofoam," she said. Levels of styrene that leach from food containers "are hundreds if not thousands of times lower than have occurred in the occupational setting," where the chemical in vapor form poses a possible risk to workers. "In finished products, certainly styrene is not an issue," and exposure to it from riding in a boat "is infinitesimal," she said.

Carcinogens are things that can cause cancer, but that label doesn't mean that they will or that they pose a risk to anyone exposed to them in any amount at any time.

They have been in the news because two groups that periodically convene scientists to decide whether something is a carcinogen issued new reports.

Last month, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, part of the World Health Organization, said there is a possibility cellphones raise the risk of brain tumors.

"The operative word is 'possibility,'" said Lichtenfeld, who among others has pointed out the thin evidence for this and the fact that cancer rates have not risen since cellphones came out.

Last week, the National Toxicology Program, part of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences - both of which Birnbaum heads—issued its report.

It adds to the list of known carcinogens formaldehyde, which is in building materials and some hair-straightening products, though Birnbaum said on-the-job exposure is the main concern. The list also adds a plant substance in



A unidentified man uses a cell phone in Oakland, Calif., Tuesday, June 14, 2011.

some "natural" arthritis remedies, aristolochic acid. Six other things were dubbed "reasonably anticipated" to be carcinogens, including styrene and another herbal medicine ingredient, riddelliine (rih-DELL-eeen).

Since 1971, the international cancer agency has evaluated more than 900 substances. Just over 100 have been deemed carcinogens, 59 are called probable carcinogens, and 266 others are possible ones.

In this last category of possibilities—besides the electromagnetic energy from cellphones—are coffee, engine exhaust and talc-based body powder. Talc in its natural form may contain asbestos, though products sold for home use since the 1970s have been asbestos-free. Again, most risk is thought to involve occupational or unusual exposure to natural talc.

The evidence on coffee has gone back and forth for years, with no clear sign of danger and some suggestions of benefit.

However, known carcinogens include alcoholic beverages, estrogen treatments for menopause symptoms, birth control pills, certain viruses and parasites, and even some drugs used to treat cancer, such as cyclophosphamide and tamoxifen.

"Most people would probably be shocked to see the number of things they interact with every day" on these lists, Lichtenfeld said.

Here's the problem: The agencies that pass judgment on a carcinogen don't regulate it or determine what levels or routes of exposure are a concern and for whom.

"People immediately assume it's going to cause cancer at any exposure level, and that's simply not true," said A. Wallace Hayes, editor of the scientific journal

Food and Chemical Toxicology, and an industry consultant.

The rule is "RITE"—Risk Is equal to Toxicity times Exposure—and "they've left out half of the equation" by not saying how much exposure is a concern, Hayes said.

"The organizations that list these substances as possibly carcinogenic have to be conservative. That means if there's any reasonable evidence, way before it's a sure thing, they have to say, 'Let's be cautious.' That's their job—to raise the flag," said David Ropeik, a consultant and author of "How Risky Is It Really? Why Our Fears Don't Always Match the Facts."

It's human nature to fear risks we didn't choose, such as hazardous chemicals, more than those we did, such as lack of exercise, poor diets or smoking, he said.

"A risk that is imposed on us scares us more than a risk we take voluntarily," especially if it comes from companies we don't trust, Ropeik said.

Styrene is an example: The government says it is a component of tobacco smoke and that is the biggest way most people are exposed to it. Smoking, of course, is the most easily preventable cancer risk.

To minimize risk, people can take reasonable measures to avoid exposure to possibly harmful things, experts say.

"If you walk into a room and you can smell formaldehyde, you probably want to vent the room before you spend a lot of time in it. That's just common sense," Birnbaum said.

If you're concerned about pesticides, you can peel fruit and vegetables or choose organics, though there is some evidence that organic products may be less safe in terms of germs like E. coli and salmonella.

ON THE NET

- Carcinogens: <http://bit.ly/aJl6ht>
- IARC: <http://monographs.iarc.fr/index.php>
- NIH: <http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/roc12>

People worried about cellphones can hold them farther from the head, text-message instead of talk, or use a headset or earpiece as Lichtenfeld does. He was returning from a major cancer conference in Chicago last week when a fellow traveler pointed at Lichtenfeld's Bluetooth earpiece and said, "Do you know that thing can cause cancer?"

"I said, 'Yes, ma'am, I'm very familiar with the data and I choose to use Bluetooth,'" said Lichtenfeld, who didn't tell her he was one of the biggest cancer experts she'd ever meet.

"You can't live life in fear," he said. "You have to live life."

Personal Trainer

Using your inner eye

Many coaches and sports psychologists teach the mental exercise called visualization to improve performance; here's a simple example.

Preparation

In a quiet place, close your eyes and relax

Think of a time when you were completely absorbed in doing something, feeling confident and focused

Put yourself in that moment

What do you see and hear and smell, what does the place look like, what are you wearing?

Recall what you were feeling and thinking and how your body felt



Forming an image

Form a mental image – a color, shape or symbol – that represents this experience and will help you remember it

Mentally store this symbol away in your heart

Any time in the future, you can reexperience these confident, focused feelings just by recalling your symbol

Before running



Getting ready for a match or game



As you begin to exercise



Source: JoAnn Dahlkoetter in Runner Triathlete News

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Graphic: Paul Trap

Life & Style

LAS VEGAS NIGHT

Gambling for a Good Cause

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For once, the community expressed undivided support for gambling for a good cause when the Rotary Club of Saipan held its annual Las Vegas Night fundraiser at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall last June 18.

Spectators filled with gaming excitement crowded the spacious hall which put on the glitz and glamour of the city renowned for its thriving casino industry.

The annual event, which aims to raise funds for the Rotary Club's various community projects, featured tables crammed with players eager to lay bets on Texas Hold'em, Black Jack, Roulette, Bingo, and Craps.

"It was a great turnout," Rotary president Glen Perez said in an interview amid the hustle and bustle of betting individuals that night.

Perez maintains that many of those who took part in the event did so since

whatever they donate through Las Vegas Night will be given back to the community through their numerous projects.

Las Vegas Night tickets were sold for \$5 per ticket or \$20 per booklet of five tickets.

"I think that a lot of the people who bought tickets support the Rotary. I know the economy is hurting but individuals want a change of pace," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Based on the report of the Rotary's banker's team, gross proceeds amounted to approximately \$30,000 in ticket sales and \$6,000 in game earnings. The figures, however, do not take account of the monetary prizes and expenses such as printing of the tickets.

Perez said Las Vegas Night was also an opportunity for the public "to have fun and relax a little."

"We don't know where we're going, with everything in limbo. It's depressing out there. Las Vegas Night is one night to have a good time and



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Rotarian Norbert Sablan collects the tokens at the Craps table during the Las Vegas Night fundraiser of the Saipan Rotary Club on Saturday.

donate to a good cause at the same time," he added.

Saturday's event also gave away exciting door prizes and was highlighted by the raffle draw cash prizes.

Frankie L. Castillo of Dandan won the grand prize of either \$10,000 cash or a brand new Mazda 2 Sport with his winning ticket No. 5988. Castillo, who was not present during the draw, could not be reached as of press time.

Other winners were Florencio T. Vicentillo, who won the 5th prize of \$250 for ticket No. 1871; Gilbert Fauni, 4th prize of \$500, ticket No. 4388; Joseph, 3rd prize of \$750, ticket No. 7638; Marilyn Jones, 2nd prize of \$1,500, ticket no. 7349; and Clarissa David, 1st prize of \$2,500, ticket No. 1166.

Perez said the amount raised from the event will be used for the Rotary's dictionary project for third grade pub-

lic school students and their next children's playground project set for Kagman Village.

He also said that there will be incentives for the Rotarian who sold the most number of tickets.

"The new set of Rotary officers, who will be inducted this month, are off to a good start as they will have the seed money to be used during their term," added Perez.



CLARISSA V. DAVID
From left, Tatiana Ilmova, Marcia Ayuyu, Lucy Norita-Shilling, and Gabriel White man the registration booth.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Contestants of the Queen Marianas Gay Pageant entertain the crowd with a dance number.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Rotarian Curtis Dancoe reads out the name of one of the winners of cash prizes. Looking on is Rotarian Vorasuda Luna.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Rotarian David Igitol draws the grand prize winner of \$10,000 or a brand new Mazda 2 Sport, which went to Frankie Castillo of Dandan. Looking on are Rotarians Farah Younis and Curtis Dancoe, who served as the event emcee.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Bearing the Las Vegas welcome sign, the stage of the Saipan World Resort Royal Taga Hall is transformed into a mini casino to accommodate Texas Hold'em enthusiasts.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Ivan Quichocho deals cards at one of the Texas Hold'em tables.

E Street Band sax player Clarence Clemons dies

By **NEKESA MUMBI MOODY**
AP MUSIC WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Clarence Clemons, the larger-than-life saxophone player for the E Street Band who was one of the key influences in Bruce Springsteen's life and music through four decades, has died. He was 69.

Clemons died Saturday night after being hospitalized about a week ago following a stroke at his home in Singer Island, Fla.

Springsteen acknowledged the dire situation earlier this week, but said then he was hopeful. He called the loss "immeasurable."

"We are honored and thankful to have known him and had the opportunity to stand beside him for nearly 40 years," Springsteen said on his website. "He was my great friend, my partner and with Clarence at my side, my band and I were able to tell a story far deeper than those simply contained in our music. His life, his memory, and his love will live on in that story and in our band."

Known as the Big Man for his imposing 6-foot-5-inch, 270-plus pound frame, Clemons and his ever-present saxophone spent much of his life with The Boss, and his booming saxophone solos became a signature sound for the E Street Band on many key songs, including "Jungleland," a triumphant solo he spent 16 hours perfecting, and "Born To Run."

In recent years, Clemons had been slowed by health woes. He endured major spinal surgery in January 2010 and, at the 2009 Super Bowl, Clemons rose from a wheelchair to perform with Springsteen after double knee replacement surgery.

But his health seemed to be improving. In May, he performed with Lady Gaga on the season finale of "American Idol," and performed on two songs on her "Born This Way" album. Just this week, Lady Gaga's video with Clemons, "The Edge of Glory," debuted.

Clemons said in a 2010 interview with The Associated Press then that he was winning his battles—including severe, chronic pain and post-surgical depression. His sense of humor helped.

"Of all the surgeries I've had, there's not much left to operate on. I am totally bionic," he said.

"God will give you no more than you can handle," he said in the interview. "This is all a test to see if you are really ready for the good things that are going to come in your life. All this pain

is going to come back and make me stronger."

Outside The Stone Pony, the legendary Asbury Park, N.J., rock club where Springsteen, Clemons and other E Street Band members cut their teeth in the 1970s, Phil Kuntz stopped to place a small yellow flower on a decorative white fence. Nearby, someone taped a handwritten sign that read simply "RIP Big Man."

"I'll never hear 'Jungleland' played live again, and that's a bummer," said Kuntz, 51, who had seen Clemons perform with Springsteen in excess of 200 times.

Caroline O'Toole, The Stone Pony's general manager, called it "a sad day for Asbury Park."

"He was 'the Big Man' but he was an even bigger man here," she said. "His presence was just enormous and unbelievable. No one who has ever played at our club in all the decades was ever like him."

John D'Esposito, a talent buyer for the concert promoter Live Nation, also stopped by the club.

"Asbury Park is crying right now," he said. "It's like the whole city is one big teardrop. Our Pied Piper is gone."

Reaction came from across the entertainment industry.

"Clarence Clemons was an electric, generous, sweet spirit. Taught me how to look cool with a sax. Goodbye Big Man," tweeted actor Rob Lowe.

Added Questlove, drummer for the Roots: "RIP Clarence Clemons. A True Legend. Will be absolutely missed."

An original member—and the oldest member—of the E Street Band, Clemons also performed with the Grateful Dead, the Jerry Garcia Band, and Ringo Starr's All Star Band. He recorded with a wide range of artists including Aretha Franklin, Roy Orbison and Jackson Browne. He also had his own band called the Temple of Soul.

The stage "always feels like home. It's where I belong," Clemons, a former youth counselor, said after performing at a Hard Rock Cafe benefit for Home Safe, a children's charity, in 2010.

Born in Norfolk, Va., Clemons was the grandson of a Baptist minis-



AP

In this Feb. 10, 2008 photo, Clarence Clemons plays the national anthem before a basketball game between the Miami Heat and Los Angeles Lakers in Miami. A spokeswoman for Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band says saxophone player Clarence Clemons has died in Florida at age 69.

ter and began playing the saxophone when he was 9.

"Nobody played instruments in my family. My father got that bug and said he wants his son to play saxophone. I wanted an electric train for Christmas, but he got me a saxophone. I flipped out," he said in a 1989 interview with the AP.

He was influenced by R&B artists such as King Curtis and Junior Walker. But his dreams originally focused on football. He played for Maryland State College, and was to try out for the Cleveland Browns when he got in a bad car accident that made him retire from the sport for good.

His energies then focused on music.

In 1971, Clemons was playing with Norman Seldin & the Joyful Noise when he heard about rising singer-songwriter named Springsteen, who was from New Jersey. The two hit it off immediately and Clemons officially

joined the E Street Band in 1973 with the release of the debut album "Greetings from Asbury Park."

Clemons emerged as one of the most critical members of the E Street Band for different reasons. His burly frame would have been intimidating if not for his bright smile and endearing personality that charmed fans.

"It's because of my innocence," he said in a 2003 AP interview. "I have no agenda - just to be loved. Somebody said to me, 'Whenever somebody says your name, a smile comes to their face.' That's a great accolade. I strive to keep it that way."

But it was his musical contributions on tenor sax that would come to define the E Street Band sound.

"Since 1973 the Springsteen/Clemons partnership has reaped great rewards and created insightful, high energy rock & roll," declared Don Palmer in Down Beat in 1984. "Their music,

functioning like the blues from which it originated, chronicled the fears, aspirations, and limitations of suburban youth. Unlike many musicians today, Springsteen and Clemons were more interested in the heart and substance rather than the glamour of music."

In a 2009 interview, Clemons described his deep bond with Springsteen, saying: "It's the most passion that you have without sex."

"It's love. It's two men—two strong, very virile men—finding that space in life where they can let go enough of their masculinity to feel the passion of love and respect and trust," he added.

Clemons continued to perform with the band for the next 12 years, contributing his big, distinctive big sound to the albums, "The Wild, The Innocent and the E-Street Shuffle," "Born to Run," "Darkness on the Edge of Town," "The River" and "Born in the USA." But four years after Springsteen experienced the blockbuster success of "Born in the USA" and toured with his group, he decided to disband the E Street Band.

"There were a few moments of tension," the saxophonist recalled in a 1995 interview. "You've been together 18, 19 years. It's like your wife coming to you: 'I want a divorce.' You start wondering why? Why? But you get on with your life."

During the breaks, Clemons continued with solo projects, including a 1985 vocal duet with Browne on the single "You're a Friend of Mine" and saxophone work on Franklin's 1985 hit single "Freeway of Love." He released his own albums, toured, and even sang on some songs.

Clemons also made several television and movie appearances over the years, including Martin Scorsese's 1977 musical, "New York, New York, in which he played a trumpet player.

The break with Springsteen and the E Street Band didn't end his relationship with either Springsteen or the rest of the band members, nor would it turn out to be permanent. By 1999 they were back together for a reunion tour and the release of "The Rising."

But the years took a toll on Clemons' body, and he had to play through the pain of surgeries and other health woes.

"It takes a village to run the Big Man - a village of doctors," Clemons told The Associated Press in a phone interview in 2010. "I'm starting to feel better; I'm moving around a lot better."

He published a memoir, "Big Man: Real Life and Tall Tales," in 2009 and continued to perform.

He is the second member of the E Street Band to pass away: In 2008, Danny Federici, the keyboardist for the band, died at age 58 of melanoma.

ATLANTA (AP)—Eddie Montgomery of the country duo Montgomery Gentry thought he was only getting a sore hip checked out when his doctor spotted a "shadow" on his X-ray. It turned out to be prostate cancer.

The singer was diagnosed in November, a time he describes as one of the most frightening of his life. But he was able to have the tumor surgically removed.

"When you hear the 'C' word, you don't believe it," said Montgomery, who is a father of three. "You don't know how bad it is. I thought about my kids. It was tough to hear that I had gotten cancer. But we were able to find the

Montgomery Gentry raises prostate cancer awareness

cancer in its very early stage and had it removed. ... I'm glad I got tested early enough before it was too late."

Now as a cancer survivor, the 47-year-old Montgomery and partner Troy Gentry want to bring awareness to the disease through a free concert. The concert is after the Atlanta Braves-Texas Rangers game on Sunday in support of Major League Baseball's contest, "My Dad, My MVP."

Prostate cancer survivors who registered through the Braves' website are able to attend the game for free. As part of Father's Day, the plati-

num-selling group will take part in an on-field ceremony for the "My Dad, My MVP" winner.

"I'm a huge fan of these guys," said Braves second baseman Dan Uggla, who said he'll stick around to watch the concert. "Now that I know these guys, I'm proud to say that I'm friends with these guys. They're very genuine. I hope the people at the concert will be able to grasp their message."

Montgomery initially wasn't at the doctor's office for himself. He visited a bone specialist to seek treatment for his son, who broke a few bones

in his shoulder after he wrecked his off-road vehicle.

While his son was being examined, Montgomery told the doctor that he had some soreness in his hip. So the doctor offered to give him an X-ray, and Montgomery said the doctor saw a "shadow" in his results and urged him to immediately see his doctor.

Making matters worse, his wife, Tracy, filed for divorce almost three weeks after he was diagnosed with cancer. The diagnosis came on his birthday.

"I hope nobody goes through what I went through," Montgomery said. "At

the time, life kind of sucked. But knowing that I'm 100 percent cancer-free, life is just fine."

With Montgomery now a cancer survivor, he has preached to his family and friends about the importance of getting prostate exams.

He's already encouraged the 44-year-old Gentry to get screened for the disease.

"You think sometimes it might not happen to you," Gentry said. "But when it happens to somebody close to you, it definitely helped push the button for me to get in there and make an appointment. I'm not worried because I saw how strong Eddie was."

Angelina Jolie visits Syrian refugees in Turkey



Angelina Jolie, Hollywood actress and goodwill ambassador for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR, waves as she exits a van surrounded by Syrian refugees at the Altinozu refugee camp, Turkey, near the Syrian border, Friday, June 17, 2011.

ALTINOZU, Turkey (AP)—U.N. envoy Angelina Jolie traveled to Turkey's border with Syria on Friday, sharing fruit and dessert with some of the thousands of Syrian refugees who have fled their government's bloody crackdown.

The Hollywood celebrity and goodwill ambassador for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees arrived in the Turkish province of Hatay on a private jet with boxes of toys for the refugee camps and visited one of the three refugee camps in Turkey, where nearly 10,000 Syrians have sought refuge.

Jolie spent two-and-a-half hours with about 1,700 refugees at a camp in Altinozu, 20 kilometers (12 miles) away from the Syrian border, asking how they were in Arabic and then speak-

ing with them through an interpreter, Turkey's NTV television reported. It said she took notes, showing particular interest in the women and children.

"The people in this camp have fled in fear for their lives, and many told me they were distraught about the safety of loved ones still in Syria," Jolie said in a UNHCR statement.

Jolie met with one woman who managed to leave Syria heavily pregnant, and has since given birth to her child in the camp, the statement said. She told how her husband had been killed. Another distraught woman told Jolie how she was sick with worry about the fate of her husband still in Syria and unable to cross the border.

"The woman claimed her husband was one of many, too

afraid to cross," Jolie added.

The American actress praised Turkey for welcoming the refugees, saying it is critical in these situations that people have access to safety.

"I am really grateful for the open-door policy of Turkey in allowing these people to enter and the assurances that there will be no forced returns," she said.

A mob of children chanted "look who is here", and "welcome, welcome" as they pushed forward to shake Jolie's hand, the statement said. Many had slogans such as "freedom" painted on their foreheads.

"I appreciate the opportunity to visit this camp and talk to these families," Jolie said. "It is a really complex situation and everyone needs to be doing all they can for the innocent families caught in

the crossfire. I will be following this situation very closely and doing everything I can."

Jolie praised Turkey for showing "tremendous generosity to the thousands fleeing Syria" and the Turkish Red Crescent, the Muslim equivalent of the Red Cross, for setting up camps very quickly and providing medical and other care.

The UNHCR said it "stands ready to assist if the situation starts to escalate."

Protests first erupted in Syria in mid-March as part of the "Arab Spring" push toward democracy. Syrian President Bashar Assad responded by unleashing the military to crush the street demonstrations. Human rights activists say more than 1,400 Syrians have been killed and 10,000 detained.

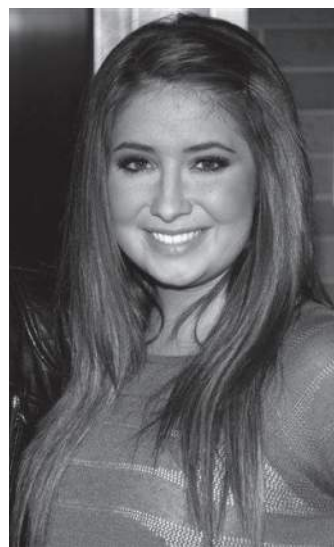
Bristol Palin calls her ex 'the gnat' in new book

NEW YORK (AP)—Bristol Palin writes in her new book of losing her virginity to boyfriend Levi Johnston on a camping trip after getting drunk for the first time on too many wine coolers.

She awoke in her tent, alone, with no memories of what had happened as Johnston "talked with his friends on the other side of the canvas." She had vowed to wait until marriage. And she had lied to her parents about where she was going.

Palin, a 20-year-old single mother and the daughter of former Alaska Republican Gov. Sarah Palin, tells a story of "deception and disappointment" in the book, "Not Afraid of Life: My Journey So Far."

The memoir, co-written with Nancy French, is scheduled for



In this Nov. 24, 2010 file photo, former "Dancing with the Stars" contestant Bristol Palin arrives for an appearance on ABC's "Good Morning America" in New York.

publication by William Morrow next week. The Associated Press purchased a copy Friday.

Palin's book covers growing up with her family, which she portrays affectionately, and the excitement of her mother's political life as governor and then, in 2008, as the GOP vice presidential candidate. But the main theme is her on-and-off-again relationship with Johnston, with whom she had a child and was briefly engaged while caught in a media spotlight.

She blasts him as "the gnat named Levi Johnston constantly spreading false accusations against our family" and calls him a self-involved slacker "who cheated on me about as frequently as he sharpened his hockey skates."

But Palin, self-described as a good girl and straight-A student, had been drawn to him and his bad-boy manner from the time they met in seventh grade.

When she confronted him about their sexual encounter, he said what she wanted to hear: They wouldn't do it again until they were married.

It didn't work out that way, though Palin notes that when she got pregnant she was on birth control pills prescribed to treat her cramps. Only by the eighth home pregnancy test, she writes, was she convinced of the positive results.

When she told her parents, they were accepting, not condemning, she writes, and focused on the future, particularly her continuing education.

Chou, veteran Lee split top Golden Melody Awards

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—It's been a milestone year for Jay Chou. The Asian pop sensation marked a decade in the music business with his 10th studio album, which became the latest in his recent string of best-sellers. He also made his Hollywood debut by playing Kato in the hit action film comedy "The Green Hornet."

The Taiwanese singer-songwriter added to an already decorated year on Saturday by clinching the top awards at his home island's 22nd Golden Melody Awards—Chinese pop's answer to the Grammys—picking up the best Mandarin album and best Mandarin male singer trophies for his recent release "Cross-generation."

Industry veteran Jonathan Lee also had a strong showing, sweeping song of the year, best composer and best lyricist for his single "Jonathan's Song." The soul-searching look at a man's love life was a product of his "Super Band" collaboration with fellow Chinese pop standouts Emil Chau, Lo Da-yu and Chang Chen-yue, which yielded a yearlong tour and two albums.

The award for Best Mandarin female performer went to Hong Kong's Karen Mok, who showcased her jazzy and laid-back vocals on the CD "Precious."

Chou, who has won 13 Golden Melody trophies over his career, was playful in his acceptance speech after clinching best Mandarin singer, joking about his superstitious belief that he tended to win when he didn't attend the awards ceremony.

"The Golden Melody jury is different every year. I like the one this year," he said. "I've

always debated whether or not to attend the awards ceremony. Usually when I skip it I win the big prizes. Thanks to the jury for changing my mind."

Chou's logic seemed to apply to Lee. The veteran singer-songwriter missed the Saturday night ceremony at Taipei Arena because of work obligations.

He said of "Jonathan's Song" in a statement published in the ceremony's official booklet: "This isn't just a song. This is the cry of the soul of everyone who is in love."

Mok, who was also named best female singer in 2002, was emotional when her win was announced, raising her trophy aloft in celebration. She wrote all the songs on the album, a collaboration with famed mainland Chinese producer Zhang Yadong, who oversaw several of Hong Kong diva Faye Wong's albums.

"I can't believe I've won this award the second time. The more I win this prize, the more I want to win it again. I am addicted to it," she said.

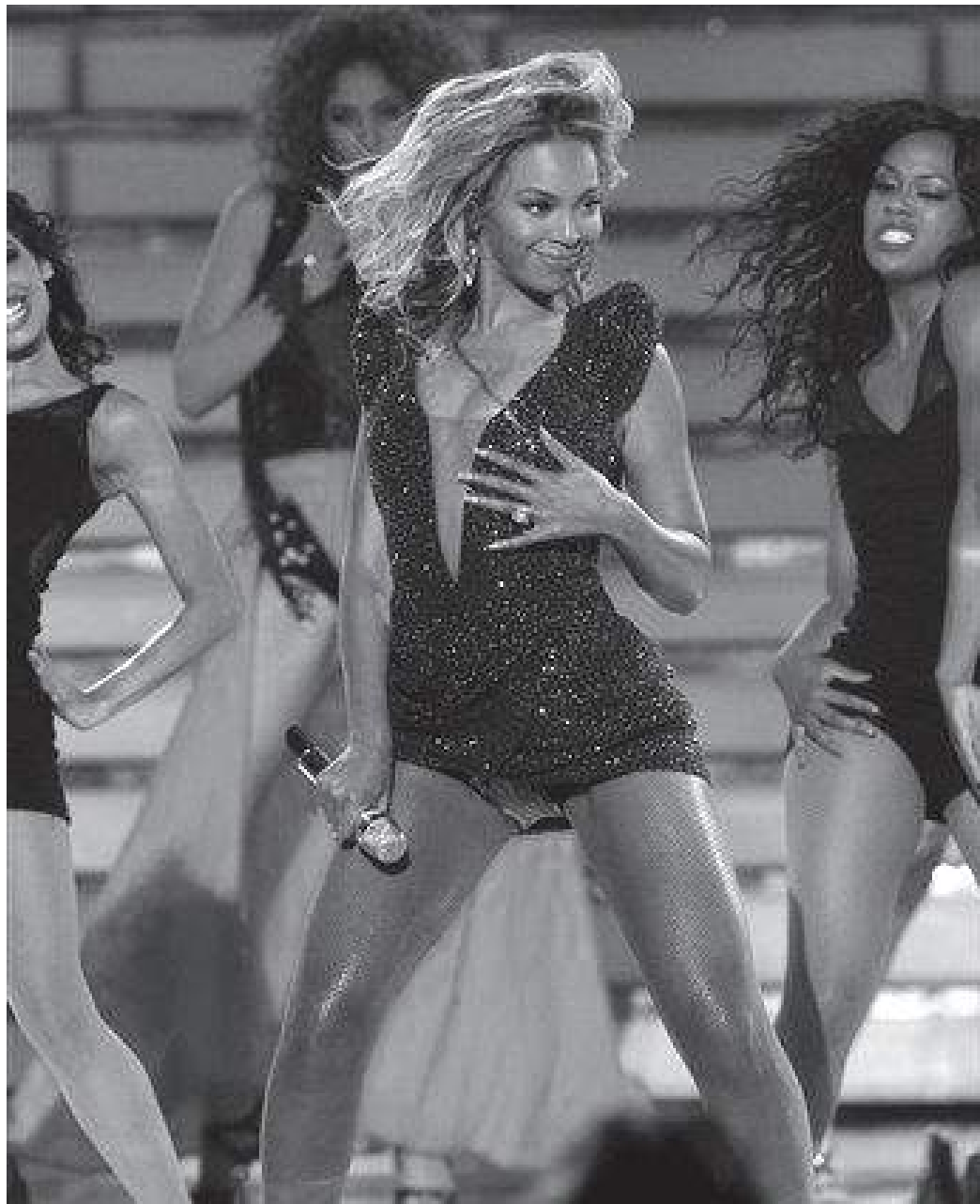
Taiwan's Eric Hung was named best producer for the album "Flower of Love," which drew inspiration from the classic songs of his father, legendary Taiwanese singer Hung I-feng, who passed away last year.

A smaller version of the massive Japanese girl band AKB48—which has 58 members—was guest performer. Dressed in identical blue scarves, ruffled white dresses and white boots, 16 members of the group waved their hands and swayed their bodies through two fast numbers and thanked the Taiwanese public for their donations to Japanese earthquake and tsunami relief.



Taiwanese singer Jay Chou displays his awards for "Best Male Mandarin Singer" and "Best Album" for his new album *The Era* during the 22nd Golden Melody Awards in Taipei, Taiwan, Saturday, June 18, 2011.

Beyonce among 178 invited to join film academy



In this May 25, 2011 file photo, Beyonce performs with show contestants at the "American Idol" finale in Los Angeles. Beyonce has been invited to join The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Beyonce Knowles, Russell Brand, David Duchovny and "King's Speech" director Tom Hooper have been invited to join the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

The film academy said Friday it has invited 178 film-industry workers to join its ranks this year.

Documentarian Tim Hetherington, who was nominated for an Oscar this year and then killed in Libya two months after the ceremony, was invited posthumously to join the academy.

Other invitees include actors Bradley Cooper, Gerard Butler, Mila Kunis, Jennifer Garner, Jesse Eisenberg and Ellen Page; "The Kids Are All Right" writer-director Lisa Cholodenko; writer Aaron Sorkin; Marvel Studios president Kevin Feige and the academy's new chief operations officer, Ric Robertson.

The film academy has just under 6,000 voting members.

Kara DioGuardi to star in Broadway's 'Chicago'

NEW YORK (AP)—Kara DioGuardi is about to make her Broadway stage debut as a merry murderess.

The songwriter and former "American Idol" judge is the latest celebrity to step into the role of Roxie Hart in the Tony Award-winning revival of "Chicago."

DioGuardi is now the head judge on Bravo's "Platinum Hit." She will be in the show for eight weeks beginning Sept. 5.

"Chicago" is now the fifth longest-running production in Broadway history. It debuted in 1996.

Other big names have played Roxie including Christie Brinkley, Brooke Shields, Sandy Duncan, Marilu Henner, Bebe Neuwirth, Ashlee Simpson, Michelle Williams and Melanie Griffith.



In this July 19, 2010 file photo, Kara DioGuardi poses at the 2010 VH1 Do Something Awards in Los Angeles.

Food fight erupts over meal program for homebound seniors

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: Because my 90-year-old mother is homebound, she qualifies for a meal program through a senior charity service. The program is free of charge for those in need. She didn't like some of the meals, so she asked me to give them to my father-in-law, "Louis."

Louis is 88. He still drives and is well-off, so he doesn't qualify for the program, but he accepted the meals that were offered. My mother has now decided she can no longer eat any of these meals, so I told her we should discontinue the program.

When I mentioned it to my wife, she became very upset with me, saying her father appreciated those meals. I reminded her that her father is able to drive himself to the supermarket and buy frozen dinners similar to what is being provided through the service. My wife is so angry she now says she will never again share any leftovers with my mother. It's an understatement to say this situation has created a major fight between us.

Is my wife correct in being upset about my discontinuing the meal service?

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME

DEAR CHARITY: It wasn't wrong to offer the meals that had already been delivered to your mother to your father-in-law after she rejected them. They probably could not have been redistributed to other seniors by the food program at that point.

But to continue your mother's food service while redirecting them to someone who is not in need is dishonest. It's stealing necessary resources from people who truly need them.

Because your wife is upset, she should contact the agency that provides the meals, or another agency that serves seniors, and see if her father qualifies. But she shouldn't punish you for refusing to go along with a deception.

DEAR ABBY: Twice, while attending social functions, my wife and I met couples for the first time. On each of these occasions as we were saying goodbye, the husbands said to me, "Your wife is gorgeous." They said it in front of their wives, which surprised me. The first time it happened, I didn't know what to say. The second time, I replied, "So is yours," even though the women weren't all that attractive.

I'm wondering if their comments were appropriate, especially because they were made in the presence of their wives. I wasn't offended, just caught off-guard and felt uncomfortable for their wives. I'd appreciate your comments.

MARRIED TO A KNOCKOUT

DEAR MARRIED TO A KNOCKOUT: Not only do you have a gorgeous wife, but your wife is blessed with a sensitive husband. The comments those individuals made strike me as insensitive to the feelings of their wives because it invited a comparison which could have made the women feel uncomfortable. I think you handled both situations gallantly.

DEAR ABBY: What does it mean when someone signs his/her name with a "Just" in front of it? I received a Mother's Day card from my in-laws (with whom I don't have a good relationship) and it was signed, "Just Bob and Diane."

I have not seen anyone do this before, and was curious if this was another form of my mother-in-law's cattiness or my ignorance.

SINCERELY YOURS IN SAVANNAH

DEAR SINCERELY: If I had to hazard a guess, I'd say that Bob and Diane may have a bit of a self-esteem problem. Or they're telling you you don't make them feel very important. Could that be true?

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

John Walsh tells 'AMW' viewers goodbye, for now

NEW YORK (AP)—John Walsh has said goodbye and thanked viewers of "America's Most Wanted" for helping bring almost 1,200 fugitives to justice over more than two decades.

Walsh told his audience in brief farewell remarks: "You've saved lives and gotten people justice."

The series aired its last weekly episode on Fox on Saturday. Fox has cited high production costs for pulling the plug on the series, which premiered in 1988.

But Walsh vows he'll return



to television.

He said earlier this week he has heard from other networks, including Fox News Channel. A decision on a new TV home could be announced within two weeks, he said.

Walsh, 65, launched his crime-busting crusade in the aftermath of the abduction and murder of his 6-year-old son Adam in 1981.

This March 12, 2009 file photo shows John Walsh, host of the television show "America's Most Wanted," in New York.

AP

18 charged in indie film investment scam

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Eighteen people from Southern California and Florida are facing federal charges in an alleged telemarketing scam that solicited more than \$25 million for independent films.

According to two indictments filed Wednesday in Los Angeles federal court, the de-

fendants lied to investors nationwide and falsely promised 1,000 percent returns.

One indictment says Cinamour Entertainment LLC took about \$15 million from about 450 victims to promote "From Mexico with Love," which cost \$5 million to make and earned only half a million at the box office.

The other indictment alleges telemarketers for Q Media Assets LLC fraudulently raised about \$9 million for a film called "Eye of the Dolphin" and a sequel. The film made about \$70,000 and the sequel went straight to video.

The charges include conspiracy, mail and wire fraud.

sales alone.

Proceeds will go to the Bama Rising Fund at the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham, where they will be distributed to charity groups helping tornado survivors throughout the state.

Alabama tornado benefit concert raises \$2 million

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—Organizers of the June 14 Bama Rising tornado relief benefit concert headlined by the country music group Alabama say the event raised more than \$2 million.

More than 13,000 people attended the concert at Birming-

ham's Civic Complex to help raise money for recovery efforts throughout the state. The group Alabama and a variety of others performed.

Concert organizer Ali Harnell said the event made more than \$1 million through ticket

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JVA 11-001

POSITION TITLE : Trades Helper
PAY LEVEL : 11/03 – 11/08
ANNUAL SALARY : \$10,598.03 - \$13,519.16
LOCATION : Marianas Visitors Authority, Tinian
Opening Date : 6/13/2011 **Closing Date :** 6/27/2011

JVA 11-002

POSITION TITLE : Administrative Officer II
PAY LEVEL : 28/1-28/8
ANNUAL SALARY : \$20,484.60 – 28,807.51
LOCATION : Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan
Opening Date : 6/13/2011 **Closing Date :** 6/27/2011

JVA 11-003

POSITION TITLE : Tradesman
PAY LEVEL : 13/03 – 13/08
ANNUAL SALARY : \$11,278.940 - \$14,388.82
LOCATION : Marianas Visitors Authority, Tinian
Opening Date : 6/13/2011 **Closing Date :** 6/27/2011

JVA 11-004

POSITION TITLE : Trades Technician II
PAY LEVEL : 22/01 – 22/08
ANNUAL SALARY : \$15,860.10 - \$22,302.94
LOCATION : Marianas Visitors Authority, Rota
Opening Date : 6/13/2011 **Closing Date :** 6/27/2011

**The salary given will be determined by the qualification of the appointee.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Tinian Office at (670) 433-9365, the MVA Rota Office at (670) 532-0327, or the MVA Saipan Office at (670) 664-3200/01 for detailed description of the position, and employment application forms. A completed application should be submitted together with the required documentation to complete the application process no later than the closing date of this announcement.

MVA is an equal opportunity employer.

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• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

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■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



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SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S



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**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP11-CDA-04**

SUBMISSION: Wednesday, July 20, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.



“FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FY2011 & 2012 FOR THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY”

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/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director, CDA

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Job Vacancy Re-Announcement

Job Vacancy No. 11-027 Opening Date: Thursday, June 16, 2011
Closing Date: Wednesday, June 29, 2011

ACCOUNTANT

DUTIES: Under the overall supervision of the Chief Financial Officer or his/her designee, the incumbents duties and responsibilities are as follows: Responsible for performing journey level accounting or finance related activities. May supervise accounting support staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff are trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Maintains, monitors, and balances assigned funds. Performs professional accounting responsibilities, which includes: preparing general journal entries; ensuring proper departmental approvals; auditing accounts; assisting with annual audits; and, performing other related activities. Researches information on accounts for customers, internal departments, and other interested parties. Prepares, reviews, and submits a variety of reports, reconciliations, and statements to and from internal departments, financial institutions, and/or Local, State, and Federal agencies. Performs month-end and year-end closing of books of accounts for assigned funds. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level. SUBJECT TO PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING.


LOCATION: Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Accounting Office, SAIPAN.

SALARY: \$27,826 - \$41,794 per annum, un-classified, ungraded.

POSITIONS: One.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and zero to four years of professional level accounting experience. **Knowledge of:** Supervisory principles; Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and other applicable laws, rules and regulations; Basic mathematics; Fixed asset accounting. **Skill in:** Monitoring and evaluating staff; Prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Performing mathematical calculations; Applying accounting procedures and principles; Recording, analyzing, verifying, reconciling, and reporting accounting transactions; Operating a 10-key machine; Preparing and analyzing financial statements and reports; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. **APPLICANTS MAY BE TESTED.**

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McIlroy sets another US Open mark for 8-shot lead



BETHESDA, Md.
(AP)—With each remarkable

round, with each record-setting performance, Rory McIlroy is making that Masters debacle seem like a distant memory.

A U.S. Open title could erase it altogether.

McIlroy moved closer to his first major Saturday at Congressional by stretching his lead for the third straight day with a 3-under 68 to set the 54-hole record at the U.S. Open—a mind-boggling 14-under 199 - and build an eight-shot lead going into the final round.

That's twice the size of his lead going into the last day at Augusta National.

And this time, the 22-year-old Northern Irishman says he has learned from his mistakes.

"At Augusta, it was all a little bit new to me, going into the final round with the lead," he said. "I didn't know whether to be defensive, aggressive, go for it, not go for it. But now, I know what I need to do, which is a great thing to have. I have a clear mind going out there tomorrow, and I just need to stick to my game plan."

This time, history is on his side.

No one has ever blown more than a five-shot lead at the U.S. Open. No has ever lost any major when leading by more than six shots going into the final round. And over three days on a rain-softened course, no one looks to be close to McIlroy.

"It's just phenomenal," defending champion Graeme McDowell said. "You run out of superlatives to describe what he's doing this week. He's decimating a field."

For those curious whether he would crumble, as McIlroy did in the final round at the Masters when he lost a four-stroke lead and shot 80, he answered with a combination of smart play early and aggressive shots when he found his rhythm.

His only bogey came from a shot that was about 5 feet too long and tumbled into a back bunker on the par-3 10th. On the next hole, facing one of the most daunting shots on the course from deep rough, he hit a 7-iron that covered the flag and settled 18 feet away. McIlroy pumped his fist when he made the birdie putt. It was a knock-out punch to everyone else.

When he walked off the 18th green with a par, he was eight shots clear of Y.E. Yang and one round away from his first major.

"I wanted to catch up a little bit," Yang said. "But at the same time, the player with the better shot, with the better putt, with the better composure is leading right now. So I have no regrets. Right now, the better player is leading."

"I think it's actually a race for second place right now."

His performance has been



Rory McIlroy acknowledges the gallery on the 18th green during the third round of the U.S. Open Championship golf tournament in Bethesda, Md., Saturday, June 18, 2011.

so inspiring that comparisons to Tiger Woods' record-setting romp at Pebble Beach in 2000 gave way to questions whether McIlroy ultimately would be the one to challenge Jack Nicklaus and his 18 majors.

"What is he, 22 years old? If you are going to talk about someone challenging Jack's record, there's your man," fellow Irishman Padraig Harrington said. "Winning majors at 22 with his talent, he would have 20 more years ... where he could be competitive. It would give him a great chance."

McIlroy, perhaps still wary of what happened at Augusta, is not ready to celebrate.

"Paddy, Paddy, Paddy," he said quietly as he shook his head and smiled. "I'm still looking for my first one. I've put myself in a great position to do that tomorrow, and then we'll see what happens from there. It's nice to have all these complimentary things said about you, but until you actually do these things, they don't mean anything."

With more rain overnight and

cloud cover through the third round, scores resembled a regular PGA Tour event instead of a major championship designed to be the toughest exam golf has to offer.

There were 26 rounds under par, the most ever for the third round of a U.S. Open.

Lee Westwood and Jason Day provided the early challenge—if it could even be called that—with rounds of 65. Webb Simpson, who narrowly made the cut, was among the first out and shot 66.

"It's not a true U.S. Open test out there, to be honest," McDowell said. "There were some tough pins out there, no doubt. I'd like to see it tougher than it was. That's the weather—you can't control that. Take nothing away from him. Rory is doing a phenomenal job out there."

Woods was the only player under par when he built his 10-shot lead at Pebble Beach. There were 20 players under par through three rounds at Congressional. But soft conditions tend to make it easier on everyone, and McIlroy has been the

best all week in any condition.

The USGA made no apologies for the low scores, attributing that to the weather—and to McIlroy, the star of this U.S. Open.

"If he wasn't in the field, we'd be talking about a pretty tight U.S. Open," said Jeff Hall, part of the team setting up the golf course. "Rory is just obviously playing at a level that's a bit above everybody else this week. There certainly are a number of birdies being made, but some folks are not finding it quite as easy as others."

About the only drama Saturday, even after McIlroy reached 14-under par, was whether he also would break Woods' record 10-shot lead through 54 holes at a U.S. Open. McIlroy had a nine-shot lead, but failed to birdie the par-5 16th and Yang added two late birdies.

Yang wound up with 70 and will be in the last group with McIlroy again. Westwood, Day and Robert Garrigus (68) were at 5-under 208.

"It definitely wasn't as easy as it was the first couple of days,"

McIlroy said. "I knew that I was going to feel a little bit of pressure and a little bit of nerves, and it took me a few holes to get into the round."

If there was a turning point, it might have come on the third hole.

McIlroy pushed his tee shot into the rough, and a tree blocked a clear shot at the green. Studying his options with caddie J.P. Fitzgerald, McIlroy pointed to a gap, then backed off and reached for a wedge to pitch back into the fairway. His third shot stopped 3 feet from the cup for a par, and he was on his way.

"That gave me a little bit of momentum," McIlroy said. "I sort of found my rhythm quite quickly after that."

Day played the opening three rounds with McIlroy at the Masters, and knew what he was capable of doing. The Australian still gave it his best shot, shoot-

ing a 32 on the tougher back nine, finishing with a rare birdie on the 18th.

All that, and he was still nine shots behind.

"The way he's playing out there, it's almost Tigeresque," Day said. "It's unbelievable how good he's playing. Obviously, to have the lead that he has in the U.S. Open is pretty ridiculous, and at such a young age. The next generation is starting to kick up now, and he's the guy that's leading it."

Westwood, considered the best player without a major, wasn't ready to concede even as McIlroy was passing his first big test.

"He had a big lead in a major and didn't deal with it before," Westwood said. "There's pressure on him with regards to that. So we'll see. All I can do is control my game and try and shoot as low a score as possible for me."

NBA drops insistence on non-guaranteed contracts



NEW YORK (AP)—NBA owners relaxed their insistence on non-guaranteed contracts in a new collective bargaining agreement Friday, but players cautioned that isn't enough because the league is still seeking a hard salary cap.

Even so, the proposal by the owners during a 4 1/2-hour meeting was perhaps their most significant movement yet as the sides try to agree to a new deal before the current one expires June 30.

"We think it's significant. Very significant, actually," Commissioner David Stern said.

Much more is needed, though. The sides set up another meeting for Tuesday, which Stern indicated would be crucial for determining if enough progress can be made in time to avoid a work stoppage.

"I really think that the time to have an optimistic or pessimistic view is at the close of the day on Tuesday," Stern said. "I think Tuesday's a very important day in these negotiations."

Stern said Friday's meeting, which Knicks star Carmelo Anthony attended along with the players' executive committee, was the first time the players had expressed so strongly their objection to the issue of non-guaranteed contracts. So the league made a new proposal closer to the current system, which allows players and individual teams the right to negotiate guarantees between themselves.

"They said to us that they wanted to look at that and they wanted to reconvene next week on Tuesday and we're hoping that we will receive

from them a proposal directed to the economics," Stern said.

While the players recognized the proposal as a positive step, they downplayed it because it was giving them something they already have—without any change to the owners' stance on the salary cap.

"We can't talk about one part in a vacuum because it impacts the entire system, so we haven't been at this point inclined to say that's a huge thing, because without other things it doesn't mean much," said Lakers guard Derek Fisher, the union president.

Owners are seeking significant changes to the league's salary structure, and Fisher last week identified the issues of reductions in contract lengths and guarantees, plus the salary cap system as the three areas the league hadn't budged on. The current soft-cap system allows teams to exceed it through certain exceptions, a system the players want to maintain.

Also Friday, the league told the players that this weekend it would be canceling its Las Vegas Summer League, which would have started in early July. Deputy commissioner Adam Silver, the league's lead negotiator, stressed that was simply a function of the calendar, not a threat to the players.

The sides met three times during the NBA finals and held a small meeting between Stern and Silver, plus union executive director Billy Hunter and their staffs earlier this week. The meeting Tuesday is expected to include many players, along with as many owners from the labor relations committee as possible on short notice.

Granderson's sacrifice helps Yankees edge Cubs



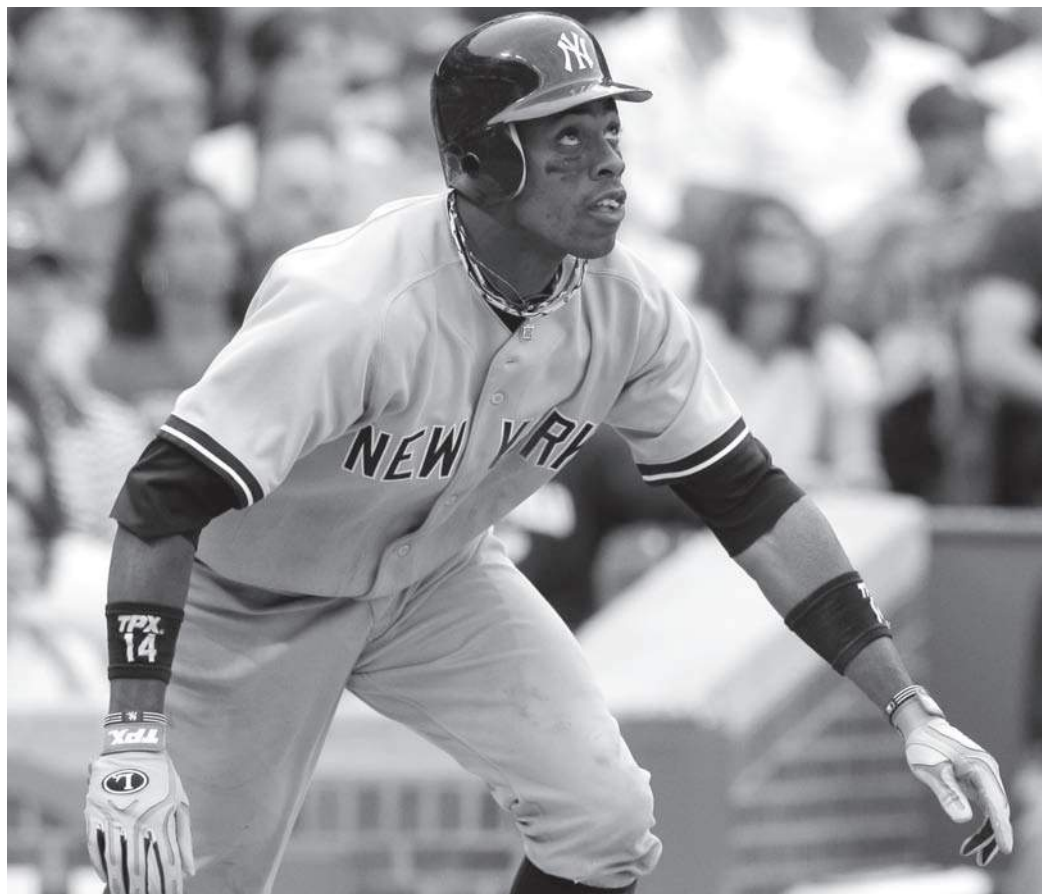
CHICAGO
(AP)—Curtis Granderson

hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the sixth inning and Brett Gardner made a terrific play in the outfield to lead the New York Yankees to a 4-3 victory over the Chicago Cubs on Saturday.

Granderson also had two hits and a walk as the Yankees won for the seventh time in nine games, bouncing back from a 3-1 loss in the opener of their first series at Wrigley Field in eight years.

Granderson's fly ball to deep right put New York ahead 3-2, but the Yankees almost blew it with poor fielding behind A.J. Burnett (7-5), who struck out eight in 5 1-3 innings.

Cubs starter Ryan Dempster (5-6) was in trouble throughout the game, setting season highs with six walks and 119 pitches. The right-hander allowed three runs and eight hits in 5 1-3 innings.



New York Yankees' Curtis Granderson watches after hitting a sacrifice fly during the sixth inning of an interleague baseball game against the Chicago Cubs in Chicago, Saturday, June 18, 2011.

Twins 1, Padres 0

At Minneapolis, Scott Baker struck out 10 over eight dominant innings and Danny Valencia homered to lift surging Minnesota.

Baker (5-4) allowed four hits and walked one as the Twins won for the sixth time in a row and 13th time in 15 games. Matt Capps pitched the ninth for his 11th save.

Tim Stauffer (2-5) was nearly as good, allowing one run on six hits with five strikeouts in seven innings. But the punchless Padres offense was no match for Baker, and San Diego lost its fourth straight and eighth in 10 games.

Luke Hughes added two hits for Minnesota.

Nationals 4, Orioles 2

At Washington, Michael Morse put Washington ahead with a sixth-inning homer, Ryan Zimmerman also connected, and Washington won its eighth straight.

Zimmerman had two hits, including a double that ignited a three-run burst in the sixth.

The Nationals' winning streak is their longest since an eight-game run from Aug. 2-9, 2009.

Jordan Zimmermann (5-6) gave up two runs and eight hits in 6 1-3 innings to win a third consecutive decision.

Orioles starter Brian Matusz (1-2) absorbed his second straight loss and left in the sixth inning with cramping in his left hamstring.

Brewers 4, Red Sox 2

At Boston, Rickie Weeks and Corey Hart homered on consecutive pitches in the first inning to help Milwaukee spoil Jon Lester's bid to become the majors' first 10-game winner.

Randy Wolf (5-4) battled through seven tough innings and George Kottaras also hit a solo homer for the Brewers, who won for just the second time in six games. Wolf scat-

tered nine hits, walked one and fanned three, ending a string of four straight no-decisions.

John Axford got three outs for his 19th save.

Jarrod Saltalamacchia and Mike Cameron had consecutive RBI singles for Boston, which lost for the second time in 14 games. Lester (9-3) allowed four runs—three earned—and seven hits.

Indians 5, Pirates 1

At Cleveland, Carlos Carrasco took a no-hitter into the sixth inning and won his third straight start for Cleveland.

Carrasco (7-3) extended his scoreless streak to 21 1-3 innings before finishing up allowing one run and four hits in 6 1-3 innings. Rookie Michael McKenry broke up his no-hit bid with a leadoff single in the sixth off second baseman Orlando Cabrera's glove.

Cabrera hit a solo homer while Grady Sizemore scored two runs and drove in another off Paul Maholm (3-8).

Cleveland has won four of six games after losing nine of 10. Pittsburgh lost its second straight following a four-game winning streak.

Cardinals 5, Royals 4

At St. Louis, Matt Holliday hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning that helped St. Louis end a season-high seven-game losing streak.

Holliday hit an 0-1 pitch from reliever Greg Holland (1-1) and is 5 for 9 with two homers and four RBIs since coming back from a quadriceps injury.

Kansas City, which won the first game of the series, has lost three of four.

Jason Motte (3-1) earned the win in relief. Closer Fernando Salas converted his 12th save in 13 chances.

Blue Jays 4, Reds 0

At Cincinnati, Jose Molina doubled and homered, and Brandon Morrow bounced back from one of his worst starts to help Toronto keep Cincinnati winless in interleague play.

Morrow (3-4) gave up five hits in 6 2-3 innings, two of them by Jay Bruce. Jose Bautista also had a pair of hits, including an RBI single off Edinson Volquez (5-7).

Cincinnati fell to 0-5 against the American League this season. The Reds were swept in Cleveland last month.

Rangers 5, Braves 4, 10 innings

At Atlanta, Adrian Beltre drove in the winning run with an RBI single in the 10th inning as Texas won on the road.

The Rangers led 4-0 early before a rain of 2 hours, 16 minutes in the fifth inning.

Ian Kinsler led off the 10th with a double off Scott Proctor (1-1), who was pitching in his third straight game. Kinsler stayed at second on a groundout by Elvis Andrus, who had three hits. Proctor issued an intentional walk to Josh Hamilton before Beltre lined the run-scoring single to center.

Mark Lowe (2-1) struck out the side in the ninth. Neftali Feliz pitched a perfect 10th for his 14th save.

Rays 7, Marlins 4

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Alex Cobb pitched effectively into the seventh inning, Johnny Damon hit his 500th double and Tampa Bay beat sliding Florida.

Cobb (2-0) gave up two runs, scattered three hits, walked two and struck out two in 6 1-3 innings.

Damon, with a double to left in the first, became just the 11th player all-time to have 500 dou-

bles, 100 triples, 200 homers, and 2,500 hits.

Ricky Nolasco (4-3) allowed five runs and eight hits over five innings.

Mets 6, Angels 1

At New York, Mike Pelfrey pitched his first complete game in nearly three years and Carlos Beltran hit a mammoth home run in the Mets victory over the Angels.

NL batting leader Jose Reyes sparked the offense with his latest big game from the leadoff spot and Jason Bay showed more signs of breaking out of his season-long slump.

Pelfrey (4-5) gave up five hits in his first win since May 10 at Colorado. The big right-hander struck out five and did not walk a batter for the third consecutive start and his third career complete game.

Dan Haren (6-5) entered with a 2.54 ERA, third-best in the AL, but had trouble holding runners in his shortest start of the season and didn't get much help from his defense.

White Sox 6, Diamondbacks 2

At Phoenix, John Danks came up smiling after taking a line drive to the head and pitched the White Sox to a win over Arizona.

Paul Konerko went 3 for 4 with a home run, two RBIs and two runs scored as the White Sox evened the three-game interleague series. Alex Rios, who had four RBIs, blew open a close game with a three-run homer off reliever Micah Owings in the eighth inning.

In the fourth, Stephen Drew's line drive hit the side of Danks' head and bounced into the photographer's well next to the Diamondbacks' dugout for a ground-rule double.

Danks (3-8) won his third straight after starting the sea-

son 0-8. Zach Duke (1-2) took the loss.

Rockies 5, Tigers 4

At Denver, struggling ace Ubaldo Jimenez pitched five solid innings before leaving with a right calf cramp and had a two-run single for his first hit of the season to help Colorado beat Detroit.

Jimenez (2-7) gave up three runs, scattered eight hits and struck out five. By this time last year, the All-Star was 13-1 with a 1.15 ERA, numbers that had him mentioned as one of the best pitchers in the game.

Jimenez left in the sixth after giving up a single to Andy Dirks.

Phil Coke (1-7) gave up a career-high seven walks in five innings. The lefty is still searching for his first win since April 14.

Astros 7, Dodgers 0

At Los Angeles, Wandy Rodriguez pitched six gritty innings in his second straight scoreless outing since coming off the disabled list, as Houston beat the fading Dodgers.

Rodriguez (5-3) struck out six and was withdrawn after 103 pitches. The left-hander is 4-0 with a 1.29 ERA over his last seven starts.

Jason Bourgeois drove in a run and threw out a runner at home plate in place of injured right fielder Hunter Pence.

Rubby De La Rosa (3-1) was charged with five runs, six hits and three walks over 4 2-3 in-

nings and struck out six in his third major league start.

Phillies 5, Mariners 1

At Seattle, Shane Victorino drove in a season-high four runs as Philadelphia beat Felix Hernandez.

Hernandez (6-6) lasted seven innings, allowing the three runs on eight hits. He walked two and struck out five.

Victorino broke a 1-1 tie in the seventh when he hit a ground-rule double with the bases loaded off Hernandez, scoring two runs. Then with two outs in the ninth, after Jimmy Rollins' third single, Victorino followed with his eighth home run to make it 5-1. He tripled in the third.

Rookie Michael Stutes (1-0) earned his first career victory in his 23rd big league appearance.

Athletics 4, Giants 2

At Oakland, California, Hideki Matsui had two hits and two RBIs to help Oakland beat San Francisco.

Cliff Pennington and Daric Barton both had RBI doubles for the A's, who matched their season-best four-game winning streak.

Aubrey Huff drove in a run for the Giants, who lost their third straight.

Brad Ziegler (2-0) struck out Cody Ross to end the fifth, the only batter he faced.

Jonathan Sanchez (4-5) pitched a season-low 4 2-3 innings, allowing four runs on six hits.

Barber battled depression, says he needs football



EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.
(AP)—Tiki Barber says failures off the field after

his retirement from football in 2006 led to a yearlong bout with depression.

The 36-year-old Barber, the New York Giants' career leading rusher, acknowledged in an HBO report to be aired Tuesday that he now needs football more than it needs him.

Barber has spent the past four months working out in an attempt to make a comeback, although his chances rest on the league and its players reaching a new collective bargaining agreement.

Barber said football represents a necessary anchor in a life turned upside down by the depressive aftermath of scandalous divorce and disintegration of his television career.

"The game never needs you because there's always someone else to come and take your place," he said. "But right now, I need the game."

The Associated Press attempted to telephone Barber, but his old cell phone number now leaves a message saying the person who has the number is not available.

"I need to prove to myself that I can be successful at something," told HBO. "I know I'm going to be successful as a football player. I don't know why. The odds say 'No.' I'm 36 and I haven't played in four years. But I just know."

The report recounts the downward spiral Barber's life took shortly after his retirement. What started as a promising career as an NBC football analyst ended in his firing. His marriage to his college sweetheart collapsed. And his relationship with a 23-year-old NBC intern which continues today soiled a well-honed, family man image.

Barber said he was unable to deal with losing his \$2 million per year job, which started as a football analyst for Football Night in America and progressed to a featured role on the Today Show. But his demotion to on-field duties and, eventually, to unemployment, led to depression.

"I crafted this career, right?" he said. "And I had gotten to the point where I was right where I wanted to be and then I failed. It's hard to deal with."

Barber said after his job at NBC ended, he didn't do anything for a solid year.

Weekend Sports

Angels, CNMI jr. netters, Fitia shine

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The St. Michael Angels championship win in the 2010 Saipan Major League and the CNMI Junior Tennis Team's dominance of the 2011 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament, and Kelvin Fitia's triumph in PXC 24 led last week's headlines.

The Angels won the best-of-five SML championship series against the Tan Holdings Brewers, 3-1. The John Flores-managed squad clinched the championship after winning the last three games of the title showdown, including a thrilling 2-1 victory in 12 innings in Game 4.

Pitcher Thomas Joab took the Finals MVP award, while the Brewers' Byron Kaipat claimed the regular season MVP plum.

In an off-island tournament, the CNMI junior tennis players swept the five doubles events in the NPQ played at the Rick Ninete Tennis Center and topped five of the six singles competition in the five-day netfest.

Thea Minor and Rafael Jones ruled the U18 singles, Christian Miller and Mikayla Lopez prevailed in the U15 age group, and Carl Dela Cruz won in the U12. In the doubles, delivering wins

for the CNMI were Miller and Jake Lee, Thea and Theecl Minor, Dela Cruz and Moris Villanueva, Negahr Rasguiy and Tammy Ackerman, and Lopez and Melody Johnson.

In another off-island competition, Fitia was in the Philippines for the Pacific Xtreme Combat 24 and scored a TKO win in the fourth round over Guam's Roque Martinez in their heavyweight bout rematch.

Other notable events last week were the Philippine Independence Day Open Golf Tournament, the announcement of CNMI U15 basketball teams competing in Palau, and the withdrawal of the CNMI Junior and Senior all-stars from the Asia Pacific Regional Tournament.

Former junior golfer Leina Kim won the PH Open; the CNMI sent seven male players and nine female in the 2011

U15 Micronesian Basketball Tournament in Palau; and two CNMI little league teams pulled out from the ASPAC due to funding problems.

Other on-going leagues/competitions on Saipan continued last week with QQ Cup caging completing its regular season games, the Miller Lite league holding its playoff matches, and the IT&E badminton playing its penultimate week.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kelvin Fitia connects on the head of Guam's Roque Martinez during the Pacific Xtreme Combat 24 in the Philippines last week.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tammy Ackerman, right, and Negahr Rastguiy, seen here exchanging hi-fives after scoring a point in a local tournament, won the U12 doubles crown in the NPQ in Guam last week.



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Pitcher of the Year Franco Flores of the Angels shows his trophy during the awards ceremony for SML last week at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Manager of the Year John Flores Flores of the Angels shows his trophy during the awards ceremony for SML last week at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Christian Miller, seen here returning to Daniel Park during the DFS netfest, won the U15 singles crown in the NPQ in Guam last week.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Wowie Abuel leans back for a return during a singles game in the IT&E badminton tournament at the TSL Sports Complex last week.



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Inchcape's Bart Demapan pulls up for a baseline jumper against a Fixers defender during their playoff game in the Miller Lite caging last week at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Mobil's Jorge De Guzman is clobbered by a phalanx of Sonics defenders during their game in the QQ Cup at the Garapan Basketball Court.



McIlroy sets another US Open mark for 8-shot lead

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Angels, CNMI jr. netters, Fitial shine

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28 MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

3 tracksters off to Pacific Games



Abrams



Ogumoro



Dillay

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics will be sending three athletes to the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia this August.

NMA development coach Elias Rangamar said they submitted the names of Douglas Dillay, Trevor Ogumoro, and Rachel Abrams to Northern Marianas Amateur

Sports Association for inclusion on Team Marianas that will compete in Noumea less than three months from now.

NMASA president Michael White gave NMA and two other sports associations until June 15 (last Wednesday) to

See TRACKSTERS on Page 26

Repeat winners at Silver Streak

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Familiar faces crossed the finish line of the 18th Annual Tom Picarro "Silver Streak" Memorial Fun Run first last Saturday.

In the men's division, Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel completed the 4.2-mile race in 27 minutes and one second for the fastest time among 94 runners. Mamiko Oshima-Berger won the women's

division with her time of 27:21, which was also the second best time overall.

Kabiriel and Oshima-Berger also ruled last year's race. Kabiriel said Saturday's event marked the seven straight year that he topped the race named after the former DFS Galleria Saipan president. For Oshima-Berger, she had won the event three times and last Saturday's was her personal best time, eclipsing her 27:34 record last year.

Kabiriel's winning time in last weekend's event was slower than his personal best of 25 minutes. Last year, he timed in at 25:54 in the race that started in front of DFS Galleria to the World War II Tanks at Quartermaster Road and back.

"I was really slow this year. I was just trying to take a good run and was expecting Tom Linden or Butch to win the race," Kabiriel said.

The three runners stayed with each other until they made a turn

at Quartermaster Road where Kabiriel started pulling out, as he noticed his two companions were not speeding up.

"I just decided to go for it," said Kabiriel, who led by only 53 seconds against Sublemente (27:54) and more than a minute over Tamio Nishikido (28:28) and Linden (28:54).

Kabiriel and Oshima-Berger both admitted they got off to a slow start, as the road was a bit slippery. It rained about 30 minutes before the race started past 6:30am, making the course damp.

See REPEAT on Page 26



Participants in Saturday morning's 18th Annual Tom Picarro "Silver Streak" Memorial Fun Run leave the starting line.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Sablan falls, Jesse wins in Trench Warz 14

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Saipan's Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan of Trench Tech Purebred submitted to Mark "Mugen" Striegl of Tokyo Japan's Wajutsu Keishukai Gods at 3:50 of the opening round in the main event bout of Trench Warz

14: Ground Zero held Friday night at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom.

Sablan dropped Striegl with a big punch in the opening exchanges, but Striegl recovered and pinned Sablan against the side of the cage. From there he worked a takedown and swift-

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WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Trench Tech's Fasi "Quickdraw" Jesse, top, goes to work on Guam's Tyrone Jones of Team Underworld Extreme during the semi-main event lightweight bout in Trench Warz 14: Ground Zero last Friday at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom.

Miller Lite Final Four cast complete

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The semifinal cast in the 4th Miller-Lite Friendly Invitational Basketball League were completed after last weeks games at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Cargo Express-Seabridge made it first to the semis after knocking off Joe's Bar-VFW Post 3457 Hoopaholics, 78-73, last Thursday, while Armatech followed suit after pulling off an upset over Blue Haus, 96-81, in the late night match.

Completing the Final Four cast were Hanwa-World Resort, last weeks games at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

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Soul Jazz's Freddie Pelisamen, seen here going for a layup during a regular season game, scored 30 points in their 80-65 quarterfinal win over PTC-Miller Lite in the Miller Lite caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

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